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The RING

FRANK BRUNO . . .
BIG, BRAVE AND BRITISH

OVER A THOUSAND RESULTS IN EVERY ISSUE
JULY 1986
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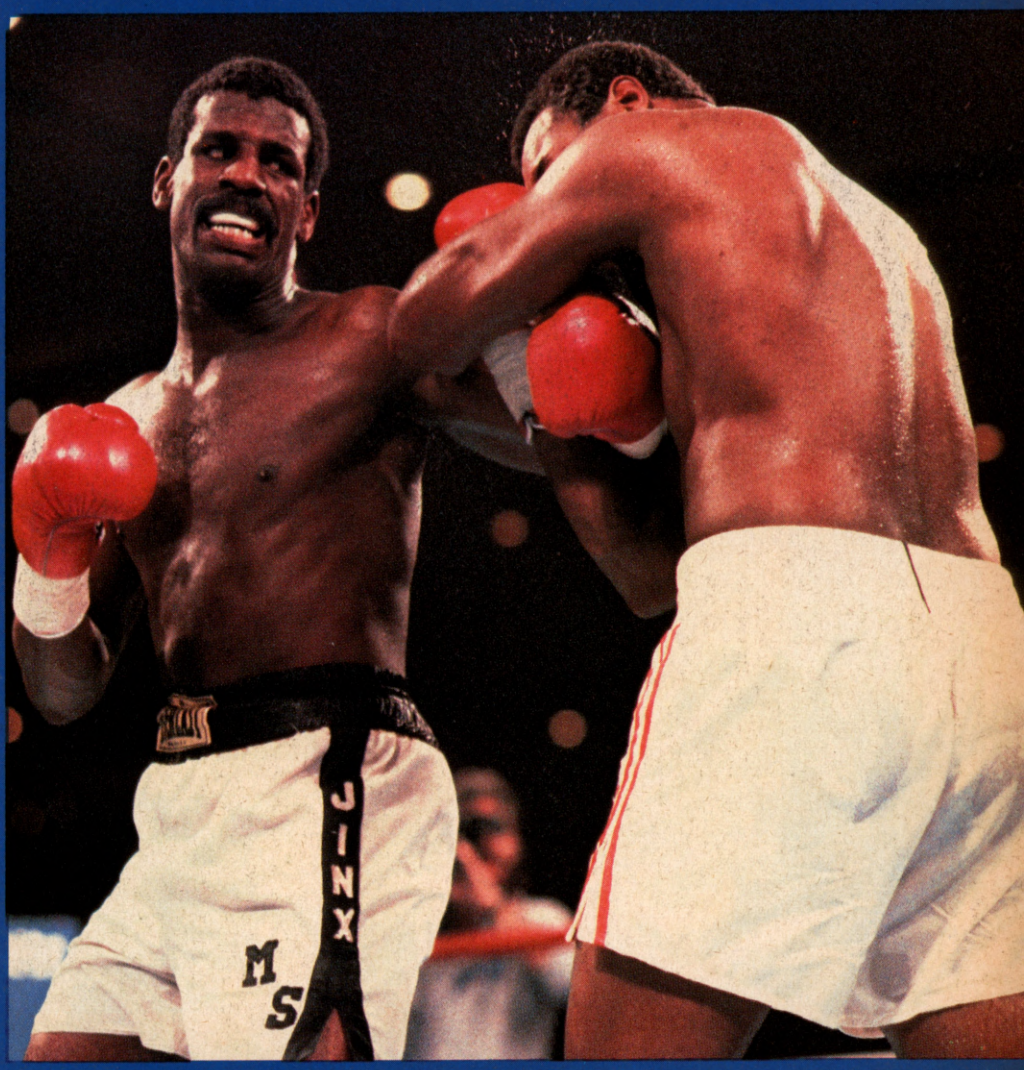
SPINKS-HOLMES II:

WHO REALLY WON?

BOOK BONUS

Exciting Excerpt from
"Papa Jack"
by Randy Roberts



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Athabasca Falls.
A rugged place for a smooth whisky to start.

ALBERTA, CANADA—Out here, nature's the boss. And you don't ever forget it.

I guess I expected sort of a picture-postcard waterfall. This one roars by like a freight train.

The water is so cold it almost hurts to drink.

It's water like this, from the glacier fields, that helps make Windsor Canada's smoothest whisky.

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Out here, nature's the boss. And Windsor is Canada's smoothest whisky because nature makes it that way.

WINDSOR
CANADA'S SMOOTHEST WHISKY.

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The RING
The bible of boxing

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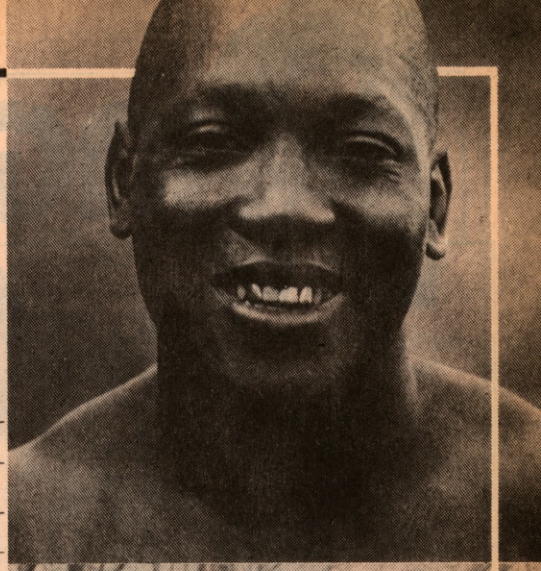

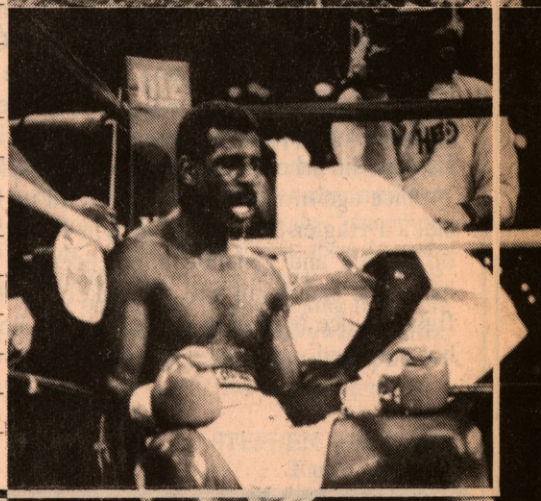

RING SIDE

The longer I hang around this sporting subculture known as boxing, the more I become aware of its inscrutable yin/yang nature. It is usually a mistake to perceive events as either entirely good or entirely bad. The truth of the matter is that things are normally both contrasting and complementary at the same time. In other words, you can't have winners without losers. Or like the man said, there's no gain without pain—even if it's somebody else's.

This brings us to the tantalizing subject of Sugar Ray Leonard's possible return to the ring for a match with Marvelous Marvin Hagler. As of this writing, the third coming of Sugar Ray is only a potentiality, but already many self-appointed defenders of the faith are spouting outrage at what they feel is a breach of athletic etiquette.

It offends a lot of folks' sensibilities to think of Ray getting his pretty face bashed in. They forecast dire consequences for Ray and urge him to remain safely behind the HBO microphone.

To be perfectly honest, I have to agree with these predictions, if not the overall point of view. At this juncture, Marvelous Marvin will probably eat Leonard alive and spit out the pieces. But so what? Isn't one comeback too many one of boxing's oldest and time-honored traditions? Why should Leonard be robbed of the same chance to make a fool of himself afforded Jim Jeffries when he came out of retirement to fight Jack Johnson, or Joe Louis when he returned against Ezzard Charles in '49 to try and rewin the title he never lost in the ring? This is the stuff boxing lore is made of. Who knows, maybe Leonard will succeed where others have failed. He certainly presents a much less pathetic figure than either of the aforementioned Hall-of-Famers did when they strove to roll back the calendar.

Once again, boxing mirrors life in its frustrating duality. On the positive side, a Hagler-Leonard fight will focus a tremendous amount of attention on boxing and generate unprecedented amounts of money. On the other hand, the end result will very likely be the humiliation of the most popular fighter since Muhammad Ali. I don't know if it's all worth it, but boxing has survived many such episodes in the past. I'm sure it will again. □

Nigel Collins

THE RING

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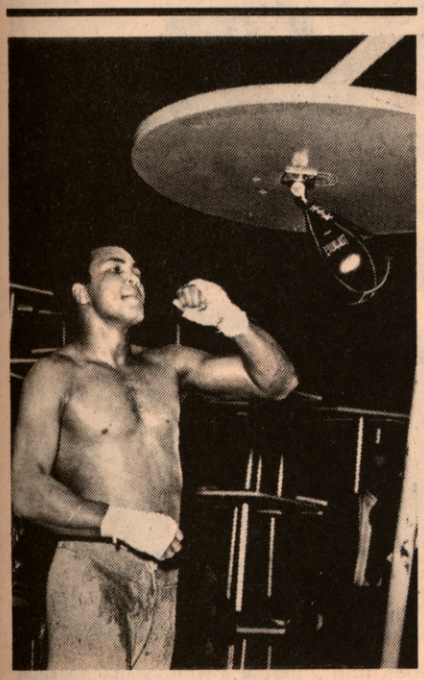
Come Out Writing



Reader John Roberts thinks that Muhammad Ali was shafted when The Ring failed to award him—or anybody else, for that matter—Fighter of the Year in 1966.

20-YEAR OLD INJUSTICE?

I ALWAYS ENJOY *THE RING*'S ANNUAL awards issue which does an excellent job of summing up the past 365 days in the world of boxing. However, I have one small gripe.

Isn't it about time *The Ring* awarded Muhammad Ali the 1966 Fighter of the Year award? I know his public image was tarnished when he refused military induction in the late 60s, but what does any of that have to do with his ring accomplishments?

Ali was simply superb in 1966. He defended his world heavyweight title five times, including four knockouts. Many ring historians will say that Ali was at his peak that year.

Let's have some common sense! Please name Muhammad Ali the 1966 Fighter of the Year and correct a 20-year old injustice.

JOHN ROBERTSON
Cambridge, Ontario

READER'S TRIBUTE

I AM WRITING TO PAY TRIBUTE TO middleweight James Shuler, who was tragically killed in a motorcycle accident in March. His ability and skill will be sorely missed by all boxing fans. Shuler showed his class by not making any excuses for his loss to Thomas Hearns. He simply admitted he lost. Rest in peace, James. You will not soon be forgotten.

GRAIG BARR
Mason City, Iowa

BOXING HAS SOUL

I WOULD LIKE TO COMMEND JOSEPH D'O'Brian on his excellent article "Another Kind Of Punchdrunk" (March '86). Boxers are a complex and intriguing lot. No doubt there is a headiness to being champion of the world that is second to none. Most fighters rise up from nothing in terms of education and background to achieve the kind of greatness which, in their heart of hearts, presidents and kings envy. Isn't that the American dream?

It troubles me to hear news commentators and sports writers cite the same tired cliches about boxing and the genuine folks who have risen through the ranks. Certainly there is a soul to this sport and its champions which insightful novelists like Norman Mailer understand, and pompous hacks like George Vacsey never will.

RON FELBER
Thousand Oaks, Calif.

BROTHERS IN ARMS

I HAVE TO REPLY TO THE RECENT letter by Eric Glieb (February '86) in which he consigns the oriental fighting arts to the garbage bin. Whilst I agree that kick boxing has no place on a traditionals boxing undercard—rather like playing English soccer at the Superbowl—I found Eric's comments a little unfair.

We can't dismiss the martial arts as easily as that. Whether or not Mr. Gliebe and others like to admit it, there has been a certain amount of cross-over between kick and conventional boxing. Muay Thai has produced a number of world class boxers such as Pone Kingpetch, Chartchai Chioni, Saensak Muangsurin and Sot Chitalada. Tex Cobb, who went 15 rounds with Larry Holmes, was also involved in kick boxing.

There should be no animosity between the Noble Art and the martial arts, especially at a time when so many people outside the game are calling for all combative sports to be abolished. Both disciplines should be able to progress side by side without snobbery and backstabbing; perhaps even learning something from each other.

I.D. FRY
Essex, England

BORED BY BUMS

WAS THAT A RUMBLE I HEARD towards the end of the Berbick-Thomas encounter? If so, it couldn't have come from the ring, but from the stomach of HBO, after watching another mediocre fighter win the heavyweight "championship." HBO should simply abort this tournament and get their money back ASAP. The bottom line is this: boxing fans were long ago bored stiff by heavyweight stiffs. We don't care if there is one heavyweight champion, or 10. They're all bums.

STEPHEN GARFIELD
Barre, Vermont

Round One

by Nigel Collins

COMING AND GOING

Old champions never die (or retire), they simply get recycled. Anyway, that's the way it seemed when **Alexis Arguello** and **Sugar Ray Leonard** made headlines recently. Arguello, fresh from rejuvenating his career with a come-from-behind kayo over **Bill Costello**, announced that he is back in retirement due to a heart condition.

"I feel very disappointed and sorry," said Arguello from his home in Miami, Florida. "But this is something I have no choice in. I've quit 100 percent. My boxing is done forever."

Arguello, the former featherweight, junior lightweight, and lightweight champion, had already signed for a match with **Gene Hatcher** when he got the bad news after a routine medical examination. Alexis' return to the ring last year was prompted by financial difficulties and his desire to become the first man in boxing history to win world titles in four different weight divisions.

Although he looked rusty the first three rounds against Costello, Arguello proved that he could still punch with the best of them when he iced Bill with a thunderous right to the chin in the fourth. His bid to win the 140-pound belt had attracted considerable attention, but a small blockage in the right artery leading to his heart put an end to all speculation concerning future ring exploits.

"I love my wife and my family. I don't want to die and I don't want to end up hurting boxing, either," said Alexis, who had flirted with cocaine when boredom overtook him during his first retirement. "I have proved that I can handle everything in the ring. Now I have to prove I can do the same outside."

A coronary artery problem has forced former triple champion Alexis Arguello into permanent retirement. Read "Coming and Going" for details.

Meanwhile, while boxing has lost the services of one old hero, another seems itching for one last fling.

During an unrelated news conference to announce a fund-raising dinner for the WBC's Sports Medicine Foundation in Washington, D.C., Leonard, 30, dropped a bombshell when he told WDVM-TV: "If (**Marvin**) **Hagler** called me tomorrow, yes (I would fight again). That's why I'm in the gym. If you have his (Hagler's) phone number, have him call me up.

"I know exactly what it takes to beat this man, but people say, 'Well, Ray, two years of inactivity, you'll be rusty.' No, no. He will eliminate the rust because he is what I want and I am what he wants," continued Ray. "And boxing needs that kind of fight."

Leonard also insisted that it's Hagler or nobody. He isn't even interested in a tune-up.

The Marvelous One was enjoying a well-earned vacation and was unavailable for comment when Leonard made his startling announcement, but Hagler's manager, **Pat Petronelli**, was all for the idea.

"Marvin would love to fight Sugar Ray. He always has over the years, but something would always come up."

It was only a few months ago that Leonard was telling folks that tennis was his game now, and that he was too old to return to the ring. Obviously, something has made him change his opinion.

"Every time he (Leonard) comes back from a Hagler fight, there's lots of anxiety," said Mike Trainer, the lawyer who helped guide Ray's ca-

Sugar Ray Leonard (pictured here with K.O. Becky O'Neill, former manager of Jeff Chandler) says he wants to return for a fight with none other than Marvelous Marvin Hagler.

PHOTO BY PETE GOLDFIELD

reer. "It takes him about a month to get over it. Deep down he always wanted to fight Hagler. If he was given the opportunity, I think he would. I don't think he could turn down the challenge."

"I always knew I wouldn't be fully content with my life until I fought Marvin," concurred Leonard.

It was this same craving for competition that led the financially secure Leonard to return to action in May of '84 following his first retirement in November of '82 due to a partially detached retina of his left eye. Although he succeeded in stopping **Kevin Howard** in the ninth round, Leonard was floored for the first time in his career before rallying back to score a TKO. Less than an hour after beating Howard, Ray told a shocked press corps that he was hanging his gloves up again . . . this time for good.

"My ability was all right, but my confidence was not there," said Ray at the time. "I was very apprehensive about getting hit and I had cold feet. There's no sense fooling myself or anyone else. I just can't go on. I humiliated myself."

One has to wonder what has happened since then to change Leonard's mind. Perhaps his sparring sessions with Canadian welterweight **Shawn O'Sullivan** have given him a false sense of security. Maybe time has dulled the memory of how his butt felt bouncing off the canvas in Worcester. But if Kevin Howard could put Ray on his backside two years ago, what do you think Hagler would do to him now?

AZUMAH EXONERATED

The California State Athletic Commission has cleared WBC featherweight boss **Azumah Nelson** of charges of using illegal drugs before his successful title defense over **Marcos Villasana**. Although

Round One

Nobody is happier about Sugar Ray Leonard's proposed return to the ring than Marvin Hagler. If the fight comes off, they could split a purse of over $20 million between them.

Nelson's post-fight urine sample showed traces of the drug phenylpropanolamine (an over-the-counter diet aid), according to WBC President **Jose Sulaiman**, "the amount of the drug in his system was so minute as to have no effect whatsoever on the champion's performance." Sulaiman added that the WBC has conducted drug tests in 417 title fights over the past 10 years without any serious charges of positive finding.

ROSIN DUST

The **World Boxing Council** has decided that rating 15 boxers in each division is not enough. From now on, they will rank 450 fighters each month. That's 30 per weight class . . . Who says boxing is the most dangerous sport around? Just look at these **Sports Deaths** figures (per 1,000 participants): horse racing, 12.8; parachuting, 12.3; hang gliding, 5.6; mountaineering, 5.1; scuba diving, 1.1; motorcycle racing, 0.7; college football, 0.3; **boxing, 0.13** . . . As part of a media campaign to spruce up his image, heavyweight **Jerry (Wimpy) Halstead** has had his picture (shaved skull and all) put on $100 bills . . . Remember **William (Caveman) Lee**, the middleweight who went out inside of one round in his 1982 bid for Marvin Hagler's title and shortly thereafter was convicted of bank robbery? Well, Caveman has served his time and is back in action. In his first start since regaining his freedom, he iced one **Orlando Paulding** in just 13 seconds of the first round . . . "I'm not surprised," Lee said. "They've banned boxing in prison, but I worked on the heavy bag all the time. I even knocked it off the hanger a few times while I was up there." . . . WBA featherweight king **Barry McGuigan** had a busy day in New York City when he visited the Big Apple during his promotional tour of the USA. He was interviewed on "Good Morning America," had an audience with Cardinal O'Connor, the Archbishop of New York, and threw out the first ball at the **Mets** baseball game at Shea Stadium . . . not to mention a photo and interview session with the sports media . . . **Fight For Life, Inc.** received a $1,500 check from the WBC as "full and final satisfaction of any potential claim against the WBC." It seems that promoters of the Nelson-Villasana bout used the Fight For Life slogan to help promote the recent WBC featherweight title fight. The problem was that neither the promoters nor the WBC, which sanctioned the benefit show to aid Mexican earthquake victims, bothered to get the permission of **Malik Rashid**, the fellow who founded the Houston-based charity . . . *The Ring*'s **J.R. Jowett** was roasted at a dinner held in his honor at Resorts International in Atlantic City. The party was hosted by Top Ranks' A.C. publicity man, **Lee Samuels**. ESPN's **Al Bernstein** was the master of ceremonies . . . **Muhammad Ali** is still fighting the Viet Nam War. The former heavyweight champion's attorneys recently sought to block a request to dismiss Ali's $50 million federal lawsuit against the government for denying him conscientious objector status during the Asian conflict . . . The Tyson-Tillis fight, shown on ABC-TV as a lead-in to their **Kentucky Derby** telecast, drew a strong 6.6 rating.

PUNCH LINES

An exasperated **Bob Arum** explaining why boxing people can't get together and form their own commission without the help of federal government: "Are you kidding? We can't even sit in the same room together."

A happy **James (Quick) Tillis** after his "moral" victory (first to go the distance) over **Mike Tyson** in Glenn Falls, New York: "When you run out of gas, that's when I kick your ass." □

PERSONAL BESTS

by
Joseph D'O'Brian

MAKING UP LISTS IS TOUGHER WORK than it at first appears. And making up lists of your favorite foods, authors, opera stars or boxers is maybe the toughest of all. Whatever you choose, you're never quite sure of who or what really belongs on your list, or why you put them there in the first place.

Try to name your own top ten all-time favorite boxers. Just how do you go about it, anyway? Do you list the ones that you think were the ten best, pound-for-pound? Or do favorites not necessarily have to be good? Do you list the ten that you most enjoyed seeing fight? Or does the fact that they're your favorites often have little to do with boxing?

I suppose the best procedure is to just go with your gut feelings. You can like a fighter because he's good, or because he's exciting, or because he won you some money once, or even because he makes a great hollandaise sauce. That's the way I approached the problem, anyway, when Nigel Collins suggested that I write an article about my personal list of favorite fighters.

So here they are: For one reason or another, D'O'Brian's Dirty Dime:

1. Muhammad Ali
2. Teddy Mann
3. Fritzie Zivic
4. Sonny Liston
5. Emile Griffith
6. James J. Corbett
7. Primo Carnera
8. Daniel Mendoza
9. Archie Moore
10. Oscar Bonavena

Muhammad Ali hams it up with a park ranger while training for his fight with Chuck Wepner in 1975. The Greatest comes out on top of writer Joe D'O'Brian's list of all-time favorites.

As you see, of the ten, eight were world champs. Six were heavyweights; six fought during my lifetime. No surprises there. But note also that of the ten, only five are generally considered "great" fighters. And only three—Ali, Zivic and Griffith—were real crowd-pleasers. So how did the rest get on my list? Well, let's go down the list one by one, and see if we can find a common thread.

MUHAMMAD ALI: How could he not be my all-time favorite? This was the guy who got me interested in boxing, at the ripe age of seven, when I saw a picture in the paper of him cutting up Sonny Liston. Don't ask me how that one picture was enough to get me hooked, but it was. I started listening to fights on the radio every chance I got, I read boxing magazines and newspaper accounts of fights religiously, and I followed Ali's every move.

I think the main reason I became such a fervent Ali fan was that I was a contrary kid. Whatever everybody else was doing, I had to do the opposite. I was growing up in conservative Middle America, where not too many people took kindly to Ali's bizarre political and religious beliefs, and where a man with a big mouth was none too popular no matter what he was saying. And since my schoolmates would always root for Ali to get his brains knocked out, it followed that I had to be the one Ali fan in the school.

God knows, the way Ali fought could make a fan of anyone. But it wasn't just his skills as a fighter that made him my all-time favorite. I think his skills in providing a role model had more to do with it.

Not only was Ali a great man (*Was*? Hell, he still is), but he showed us how a great man should act. Yes, he was cocky, loud, sometimes downright boorish, but when you got down to it, you never found anything but good will. And while he knew, absolutely, that he was the single greatest, most revered and most influential man in the history of boxing, he never once made the mistake of taking himself too seriously. He was like God with a custard pie up his sleeve.

TEDDY MANN: Until his retirement a

couple of years ago, this journeyman middleweight was my favorite active fighter. Not because he was great—at his peak, he was still a few fights away from a world ranking—but because he had incredible class.

Mann, as often as not, was the "opponent," shipped in to lose to a local favorite. And lose he might, but not before he'd given the local boy the scare of a lifetime. Mann would make any fighter work his butt off. And when the fight was over, win or lose, Mann would never have anything but praise for the other guy.

He fought just about everybody who was anybody in the middleweight division in the late 70s and early 80s, never gave less than his best and never embarrassed himself. He was of that breed of fighter who, regardless of his ability, does his best and takes pride in it, even if he's barely scraping out a living. We should have more like that.

FRITZIE ZIVIC: I read Zivic's definitive treatise on how to fight dirty when I was nine years old, and to this day I consider it the most educational boxing document I've ever read. Not only because it told me all about low blows and butts, but because it also talked about dirty tricks outside the ring. Double-crossings by managers and promoters, crooked fights, incompetent officials, you name it. Zivic talked about it.

As a fighter, Zivic was not great. He lost 65 fights (more by far than any other world champ), "did business," and won as many fights by foul means as he did by fair.

Zivic gets on my list of all-time favorites partly because he gave me such a good education, and partly because his character is irresistible. Finding himself in the midst of a dirty business, he fought dirty right back, came out of it still on his feet, and laughed all the way. Whatever the business is, and whatever you may think of a guy who operates like that, you have to admire him if he can do it with guts and grace, and tell a good story on top of it.

SONNY LISTON: There I go, being contrary again. I like Sonny Liston because nobody else does. Also because, in a strange way, there was a dignity about this cruel, perpetually angry man that anyone might envy.

Liston knew that the rest of the world hated him, and when he realized that he'd never be able to change anyone's mind, he stopped trying, and just made his way along the best he could.

Primo Carnera gets into the swing of things.

The sunny smile of Emile Griffith.

When I was little, I was aware of Liston only insofar as I knew that Ali had won the heavyweight title from him. My admiration of him came at the tail-end of his career, in the late 1960s, when he was well over 40 years old and still scaring the hell out of Joe Frazier.

Very few people remember this part of Liston's career: He only got a couple of TV dates, and the viewing share wasn't that great. But I'll never forget it. There he was, old and creaky, but still plugging along, and his opponents were coming into the ring scared shitless of a guy old enough to be their father. I remember saying to myself, "What a hell of an old guy," and that's the way I still feel today.

Also, there was always something about him—I can't for the life of me say what it was—that made me think that he wasn't really a bad man at all. He seemed, at times, like a man playing a role: He knew he was supposed to be evil, so he acted evil, but he never seemed comfortable in the part.

EMILE GRIFFITH: This is another guy I began to appreciate late. I got into Griffith's work during that long dry spell from 1967 to 1970, when Ali was being (illegally) prevented by the government from plying his trade. Griffith was a good substitute for Ali. He made you think when he fought, since he didn't appear to have too many natural tools, but he always won anyway. Griffith was the guy who taught me that you don't have to hit hard to be a good fighter; you don't have to be exceptionally fast; you just have to be smart. It's guys like Griffith that I talk about when somebody tells me that all boxers are dumb.

JAMES J. CORBETT: Corbett should be the idol of any not-so-tough guy who daydreams of being a great fighter. Take a look at a picture of Jim Corbett. I ask you, does he look anything at all like a fighter? A fashion model, maybe. A hairdresser, maybe. But a fighter? Maybe a pillow fighter.

The thing I like about Corbett was that instead of trying to change his image, trying to act tough, he encouraged the public to think of him as a sissy.

When he won the heavyweight title from John L. Sullivan, back in 1892, he showed up for the fight in a light summer suit, straw boater and bamboo cane, deliberately looking as dandified as he could to be sure that Sullivan wouldn't take him seriously. "What's the difference?" he asked his shocked trainer. "I'm not going to fight in these clothes, am I?"

(I did something like this once, in my college days. I got into a poker game during which I acted like a fairy, lisping and flinging a limp wrist all over the room, just to throw all the *macho* guys at the table off their guards. Made a fortune.)

At any rate, you have to like a fighter who has the guts to act like a fop, if that's what he feels like doing.

PRIMO CARNERA: If there was ever a fighter who should have appealed to the average, boring guy, Primo Carnera was the fighter. My only question is, why did he never appeal to anyone? Granted, he couldn't fight. Granted, his whole career was a series of fixed fights. Granted, he was almost certainly the worst fighter ever to hold the heavyweight crown. And yet . . .

Here was a guy who knew absolutely nothing about boxing, who learned whatever little he did learn by simply fighting his way up, and who, by the end of his career, was able to honestly beat first-rate fighters like Paulino Uzcudun and Tommy Loughran. Here was a guy who had no talent, no liking for the game, no punch, no speed, no nothing, yet he gave Joe Louis a tougher fight than a lot of other guys did.

So he was managed by gangsters who manipulated him like a marionette. That wasn't his fault, and no one has ever said that it was. When they finally abandoned him, and he was forced to fight without any help from anyone, he didn't complain. He did the honorable thing—his best—and made some kind of a mark on the sport in spite of everything.

DANIEL MENDOZA: The only bare-knuckle fighter on this list, Dan Mendoza was the Muhammad Ali of his day (except that he was Jewish, not Muslim). He held the heavyweight title in the early 1790s, and he won it with speed and smarts instead of a big punch. He weighed only about 165, yet he fought and beat full-sized heavies. He was the first Jew ever to be granted an audience with the King of England (one of the Royal Princes asked permission to punch him, so he could say he'd done it). He fought, on and off, until he was well into his fifties, and left behind one of the most entertaining autobiographies a fighter has ever written. Like Ali, Mendoza was loud, flamboyant and not at all shy about letting everyone know how good he was. And as was the case with Ali, most fans went to his fights to see him get beat, but stayed to cheer him on.

Mendoza, too, believed he was pretty as well as great. He was especially proud of his long, curly hair, which he refused to shave off as most fighters did. He lost his title in 1795 when John Jackson came up with the bright idea of holding him down by the hair and pounding on him. It was several months before "The Light Of Israel" was pretty again.

ARCHIE MOORE: Once, when a fan complained to Archie Moore that he couldn't understand Moore's complex ring style, Moore replied, "You're thinking about boxing. What I do is philosophy." Moore was to boxing what Newton was to physics, or what Euclid was to geometry: There have been other innovators, other inventors of definitive systems, but it was Moore who was the ultimate practitioner and teacher of scien-

Argentine heavyweight Oscar Bonavena reveals another side of himself as he draws a caricature of Floyd Patterson as part of the pre-fight hype for their 1972 bout at Madison Square Garden.

tific boxing as we know it today. He was probably not the greatest fighter of all time—there were others who had better overall tools—but probably there was never a fighter who developed his skills to the extent that Moore did.

Moore's single greatest talent was his ability to fight inside defensively. Before Moore, infighting was used almost exclusively as an offensive tactic. It was Moore who discovered that the best way to make an opponent miss was to crowd him, and that to make him miss was one of the best ways to wear him out. Moore did not have great stamina himself, but he could pace himself better than anyone in the business. He didn't have a great chin, but he was expert at controlling the damage if he did get nailed.

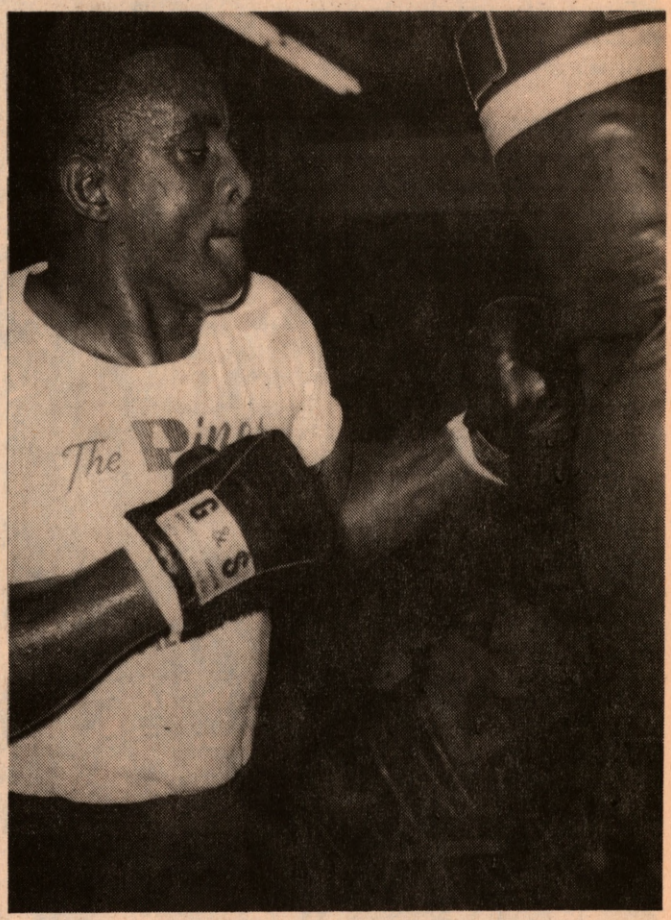
Finally, Moore fought. None of this twice-a-year crap for him. Even when he was champ, he'd fight a dozen or so non-title bouts a year, sometimes within a few days of each other. What the hell happened to guys like that?

OSCAR BONAVENA: I have always had a soft spot for boxers who were utterly fearless, and they didn't come much braver than this Argentine heavy. He was never a great fighter, but he was good enough to stay in the top ten for most of his career, to deck Joe Frazier twice, and to give Ali a pretty good contest. He was slow and clumsy, couldn't box any better than a novice Golden Glover, but he never backed down to anyone.

Of course, the line between bravery and stupidity is pretty thin. Bonavena eventually lost his life refusing to back down to a gun. The story was that he fell in love with a hooker, married her, and was gunned down by her pimp. Even in that case, though, you have to give Oscar credit. It takes a certain amount of guts to marry a hooker and not give a damn what people say about it, even when one of those people isn't armed.

So there you are: my ten favorites. And what's the common thread? Well, there isn't much of one. There is this, though: None of these guys made it onto my list simply by being good. They did it by being classy, or interesting, or colorful, or by making a lasting contribution to the game. And this, I think, proves a point to which I keep returning in my dissertations on this sport. Namely, that this is not a matter of record-keeping and bottom lines. No, boxing is the oldest, and perhaps the greatest, performance art. To regard it as anything else is to miss the point completely.□

Archie Moore was to boxing what Newton was to physics, or what Euclid was to geometry . . . an innovator.

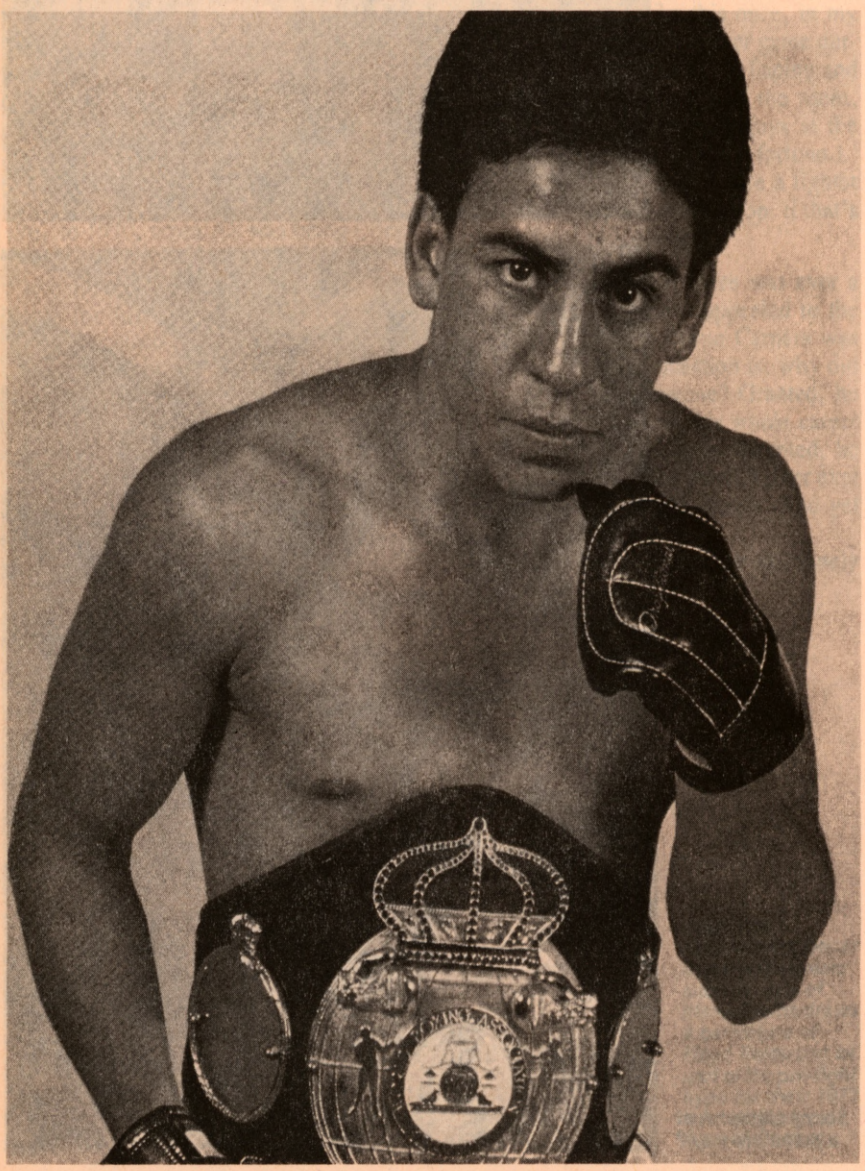


Sonny Liston: Just a mean old man?

RICHIE SANDOVAL: FORMER CHAMPION

He Lived To Fight,
But In The End
The Sport He Loved
Almost Killed Him

by Christopher Coats



Sandoval proudly displays his WBA championship belt.

THE ONE THING THAT REALLY MATtered to Richie Sandoval came to an end a few months ago when he lost his WBA bantamweight title on a stormy night in Las Vegas. As long as he could remember, Richie wanted to become a world champion. He wanted to carry himself with dignity—and so he spent nearly every day of his youth in training.

When he lost his title, Richie was knocked into a coma, and though it was his only defeat in five and a half years as a professional, there will be no rematch with Gaby Canizales, the man who took his title. At 25 years old, Richie Sandoval has decided to never fight again.

In the small, well-kept house where he grew up, Richie is recovering from the fight with the help of his parents. Pomona, California is a town of factory workers, and whatever hope there is of moving up in the world is found between a paycheck and the cost of living. Richie's father worked in a factory in The City of Industry making casements for truck batteries. There is an awning over the narrow porch of the house and a hand-written sign on the front door that says, DO NOT DISTURB, A DAY SLEEPER INSIDE.

The living room is dark and very small. It is like early evening. There are shades and heavy colored drapes over the windows. There are boxing trophies (124 by quick count) crowded onto shelves and cabinet tops and a mantle. There are plaques won in boxing tournaments on the walls, a few pictures, one of Richie meeting President Carter and his wife, and two pair of boxing gloves on a shelf. One pair he wore when he won the title, in April, 1984. The other pair are from his last fight. In one corner of the room is his father's chair.

Gaby Canizales comes from another town of factory workers—Laredo, Texas. And like most fighters, he wanted to breathe the air in a better place than he came from. He knocked Sandoval down five times, each coming after a series of hard shots to the head. In the seventh round, Sandoval went down three times. Referee Carlos Padilla didn't need to count for the last one. Sandoval was carried from the ring on a stretcher and taken to Valley Hospital. Placed in intensive care at first, Sandoval was given two CAT-scans which came out normal and released a few days later.

When he was growing up, perhaps since the day he first walked, boxing was a sort of second language in Sandoval's life; it was a constant part of his world as the child became boy and the boy became a

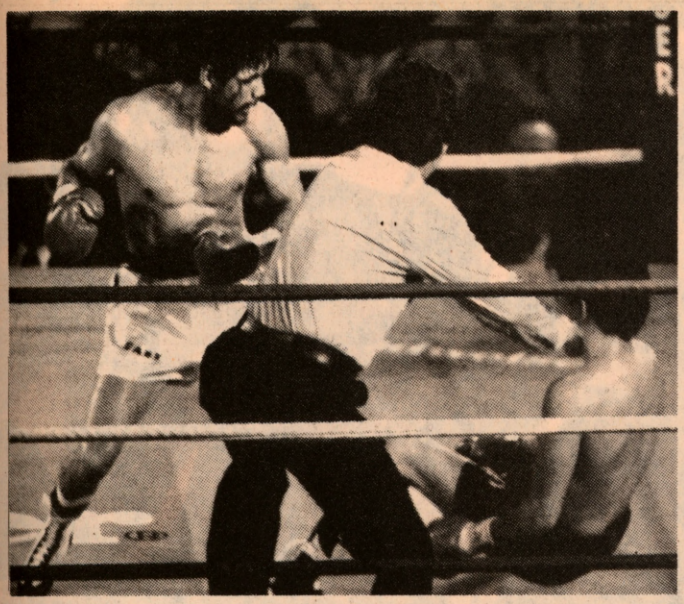


PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA

Sandoval heads for the canvas for the fifth and final time in his ill-fated bout with Gaby Canizales. Minutes later, Richie was literally fighting for his life.

man.

Richie's father had been a professional fighter at a very young age following the death of both his parents in Mexico. The youngest of three boys, Richie tagged after his brothers and listened to them talk about their street fights and their ring heroes. When he was seven, he followed them so far, he ended up in a boxing gym.

The oldest brother, Joe, turned professional and had a dozen fights, but was forced to give up the sport because, according to this father, he had soft skin that ripped apart after only a few punches. The other brother, Alberto, turned pro in 1975 and became a world ranked fighter known as "Superfly." Now retired, Alberto delivers car parts for Toyota. Joe works in a factory.

When he was in high school, Richie was an outstanding amateur fighter, winning numerous tournaments. By any measure of his age group, Richie had a lot to brag about. He could have walked down the school hallways with a touch of swagger. But that wasn't his style.

"I was very shy," Richie says, softly, remembering when he was a teenager. "I kept to myself mostly. I didn't tell many people about my boxing. It didn't have anything to do with them. For a long time I had a job as a stock boy, I kept to myself and I trained all the time. I didn't have many girlfriends in school. If I was in a movie I wouldn't get the part of the leading man. Maybe the guy in the background. What I really wanted to do was become a world champion. And I sensed that I could. Being famous didn't interest me and I never thought about the money. I knew what I wanted to do and I spent all my time working on that."

Sandoval won more fights and more trophies and in 1979 and 1980 he won the national AAU title. After some 168 fights, winning all but 12, Richie aimed for an Olympic gold medal, but the United States boycotted the Moscow games and he had to settle for a personal apology from the President. His two sisters and brothers moved out on their own and Richie turned professional.

After he won the world title, Sandoval had two title defenses but then went a year and three months without defending his crown again. Before meeting Canizales, there were five non-title fights and perhaps his body got used to the added weight. Frustrated by the delays in his title fight, Sandoval also suffered some loss of market appeal to the networks due to the inactivity.

Sandoval's encounter with Canizales was part of the Marvelous Marvin Hagler-John (The Beast) Mugabi undercard and was held in an outdoor arena behind Caesars Palace. All 15,254 seats were filled despite a steady downpour. It was raining so hard that many of the customers got soaked; the lucky ones covered themselves in plastic garbage bags.

"I was worried about the rain," Richie recalls, as if it happened a long time ago. He has no memory of the fight, only a few images before it happened. "I wasn't thinking about what I was going to do, what my fight plan was—my mind was on other things. It was raining so much that I had to be carried into the ring—so that my shoes would not get wet. I worried if the canvas would be wet and I was afraid maybe one of us would slip during the fight and fall out of the ring. I remember getting into the ring. I felt alone. It was very strange. There were overhead lights but it was dark everywhere outside the ring. It was cold—the wind was blowing in—I could hear rain falling in the dark. I kept thinking about that. I don't remember the referee, or getting instructions. It was all strange that night. I only remember being worried about the rain."

Perhaps Sandoval got caught cold? It happens sometimes. It isn't always obvious to observers, but sometimes a fighter takes a punch that he doesn't recover from. Richie thinks that may be what happened to him. He doesn't use his weight-making difficulties as an excuse.

"I trained hard for this fight," he says. "I trained hard and I felt ready. I was in good shape. The days before the fight I felt confident, but boxing is different. You can be in good shape but you're all by yourself. In other sports you always have someone to talk to—someone to share what's going on. You get to sit down and joke with a teammate. You can discuss what's going right or wrong and what you're going to do about it. If you're hurt they'll help you. In boxing you're alone."

Canizales dropped Sandoval in the opening round with three solid shots. The champion appeared somewhat unsteady but he survived the round. He also took more punishment.

Sandoval was unable to deliver his usual series of sharp counters, and even his attempts to hold the challenger off with jabs enjoyed little success. In the fifth round, Canizales knocked Sandoval across the ring and down against the ropes.

In the seventh round, Sandoval was caught by a punch he probably never saw. He toppled to the canvas, got up, and was knocked down again. Somehow, he managed to get back to his feet. Seconds later he was knocked flat on his back. He was close to death.

Some say Sandoval was injured when his head crashed against the ring floor during the final knockdown. He was certainly in no condition to break his fall. People who loved the sport were stunned by what happened. No matter what the medical diagnosis would prove to be, no one wanted to see Richie Sandoval fight again. He was carried into the ring, and carried out of the ring, and that's a line no fighter dare cross.

Bob Arum promoted the fight. The following day he gave Sandoval a $30,000 cash bonus and offered him a job as a West Coast representative for Top Rank Inc. at $25,000 a year. If there was some-

Richie Sandoval (right) goes head-to-head with Gaby Canizales in the early going of a title fight that Sandoval barely remembers.

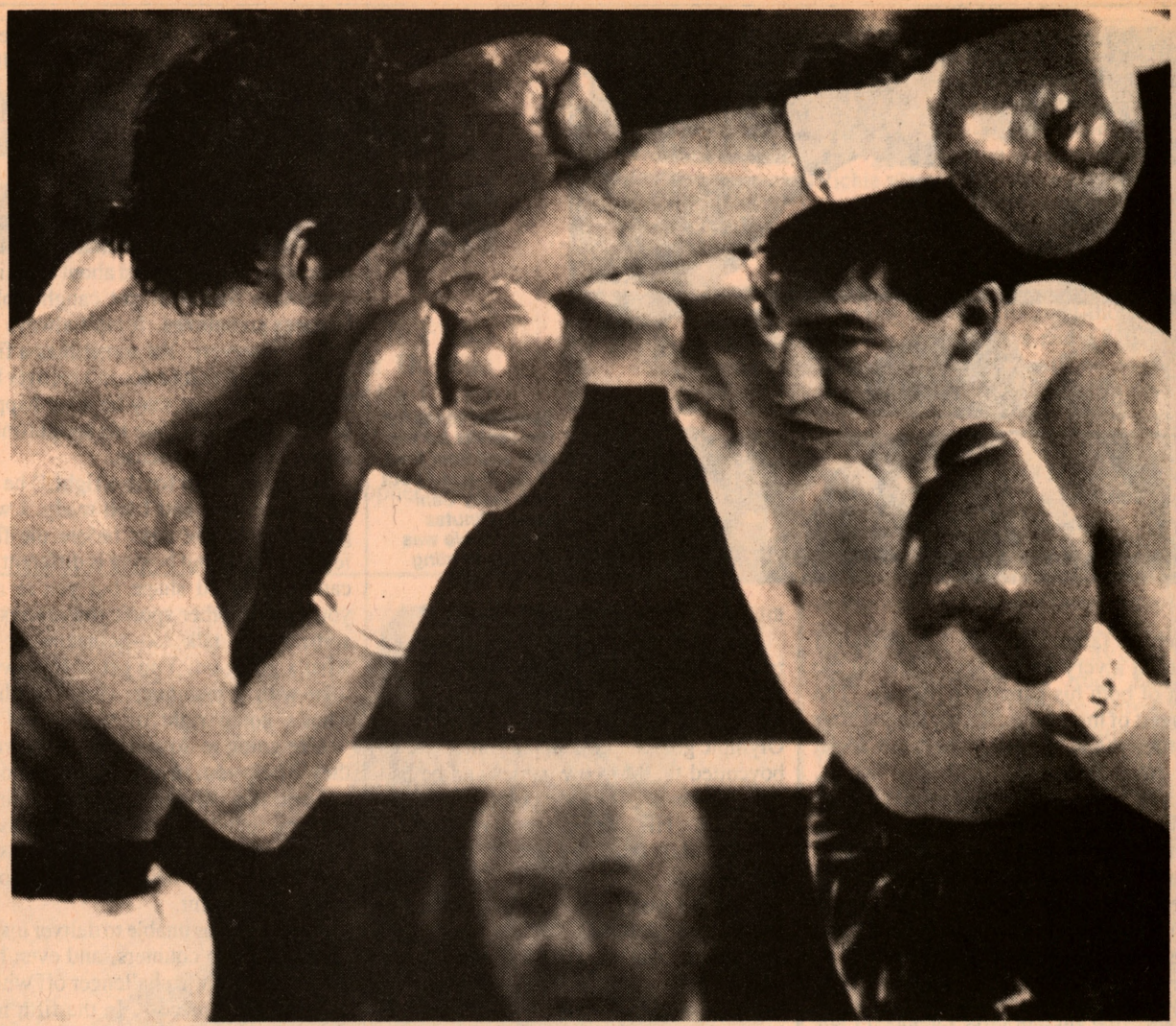


PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA

thing self-serving about the offer it wasn't shown in his clause that stipulated Richie Sandoval never fight again—not even in the gym.

"When I woke up in the hospital," Richie remembers, reassuring himself, "I looked around and saw a nurse and all of a sudden I knew what happened. I had an idea. I thought, 'Oh, no, I lost my title.' No one had to tell me. Before the nurse said anything, I already knew. I didn't feel shocked or angry. I was very tired, but I just wanted to know if I put up a good fight. That was it."

Richie hasn't seen a tape of the fight yet. Dr. Fathie advised his father against it, wanting the ex-champion to rest for an undetermined length of time.

Richie studied art in college for two years, and he is giving it another try. Instead of training, each day he takes medication. He seems lethargic, distracted, and weary. Is it the result of punches or the medicine? Sandoval has small feet and hands, jet black hair, a lopsided, sad little smile. He doesn't look at the plaques or his press clippings. The money he made boxing was turned over to his father to handle. When he tagged along after his brothers he wasn't chasing a pricetag or a paycheck.

"I never had a vacation, I only wanted to be a champion," Richie says, sitting straight on the living room couch. He looks sad, and a bit hurt, but you know he wants to get up again. He lost his title and his boxing career. Even for a former world champion, there isn't a trophy or a belt that is worth as much as the girlfriend he never had.

"Sometimes an accident happens that can't be avoided," Richie explains. "It could happen in anything. An accident could happen in anyone's life on any day. I could fight again, but would I ever be as good as I once was? A champion should have respect. I look up to Napoles and Olivares and Chacon. I've spent my whole life in boxing."

Is the greatest pain felt in the flesh? In boxing, pain is something fighters trade and gamble with. For them, pain is like poker chips, except the winner is the guy who ends up with the least chips. Eventually, all fighters decline. Their skills erode with age. But they usually have time to see it coming on, and possibly even accept the inevitable. Little Richie Sandoval wasn't given even a minute's warning. On a stormy night in Vegas, everything he ever worked for vanished in a fight he can't even remember.

Yes, Gaby Canizales can punch hard, but that's not what hurts Richie Sandoval. □

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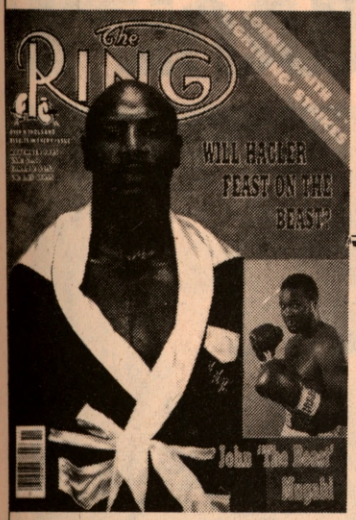

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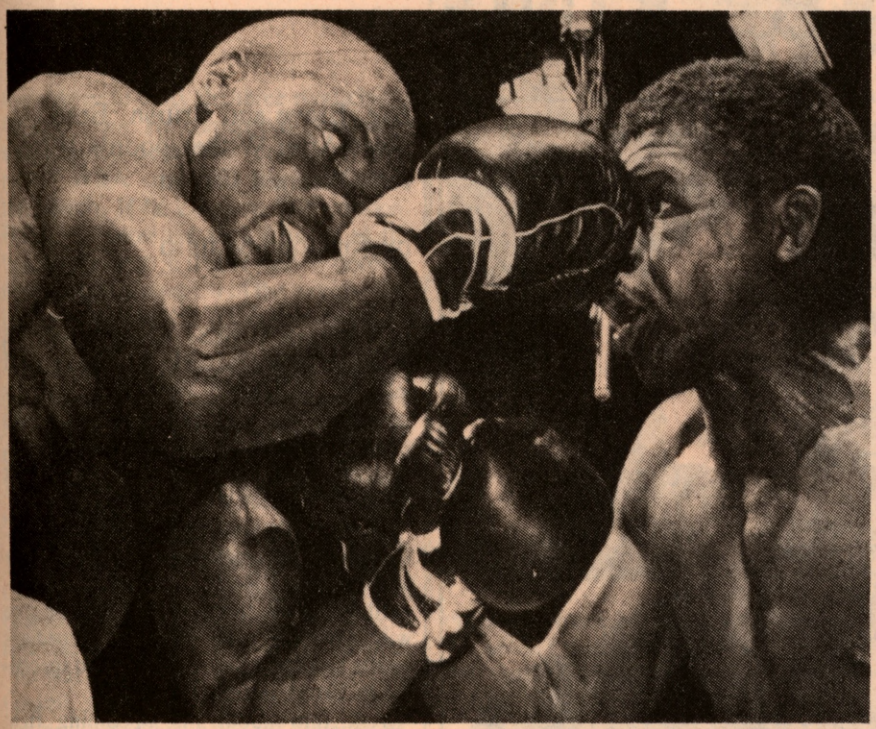
ASK THE ANSWERMAN



Holly Mims (right) had Rubin "Hurricane" Carter on the canvas in the fifth round of their 1962 match, but Carter got up to win by a unanimous decision.

Q: When and where did Sugar Ray Robinson have his first pro contest?

LEE JOSEPHSON
Cairo, Ill.

A: *Robbie's first pro bout was a scheduled four-rounder against Joe Echevarria on the undercard of the first Fritzie Zivic-Henry Armstrong bout in Madison Square Garden. Robinson, 134½, TKO'd Echevarria, 132, at 0:51 of the second.*

Q: A friend of mine says he heard that Wilfred Benitez was married to Sugar Ray Leonard's sister. True or false?

SAMUEL B. SMITH
Williamsburg, Va.

A: *True.*

Q: Who was the tallest world welterweight champion? Who was the shortest?

SERGIO VALDEZ
Houston, Texas

A: *Thomas Hearns was the tallest at 6 ft. 1 in. Joe Walcott was the shortest—only 5 ft. 1½ in.*

Q: Did Yoko Gushiken ever fight in the United States?

HERBERT OSBORNE
Niles, Ohio

A: *No.*

Q: When and where did Jack Dempsey pass away? How old was he at the time of his death? Was he still operating his bar-restaurant? When did he become world heavyweight champion?

H.B. (DUKE) STROTHER
Jacksonville, Fla.

A: *Dempsey died in New York City on May 31, 1983, 24 days short of his 88th birthday. His bar-restaurant was shut down in the 1970s. Jack won the world heavyweight championship by stopping Jess Willard after three rounds of a scheduled 12 at Bay View Park Arena in Toledo, Ohio on July 4, 1919.*

Q: Did Holley Mims floor Ruben Carter in their 10-round bout in Madison Square Garden?

GARRY SIMMONS
Asbury Park, N.J.

A: *Mims dumped Carter in the fourth round. The date of the engagement was December 22, 1962. Carter won on points.*

Q: Did Joe Louis ever fight in New York's Hippodrome? My grandfather says he did.

ERIC BORDEN
Jackson Heights, N.Y.

A: *Louis kayoed Jorge Brescia in the third round in the Hippodrome on October 9, 1936.*

Q: Who was the first black world champion?

WILLIAM SAYLOR
Iowa City, Iowa

A: *George Dixon. He won the vacant world 116-pound title by knocking out Nunc Wallace in the 18th round at the Pelican Club in London, England on June 27, 1890.*

Q: What was Max Baer's first professional fight?

SY DREYER
San Diego, Calif.

A: *A two-round knockout over Chief Caribou in Stockton, Calif. on May 16, 1929.*

Q: Is a fight which ends between rounds scored as ending in the last round fought or in the round coming up?

MAX GUTTMANN
Madison, Wisc.

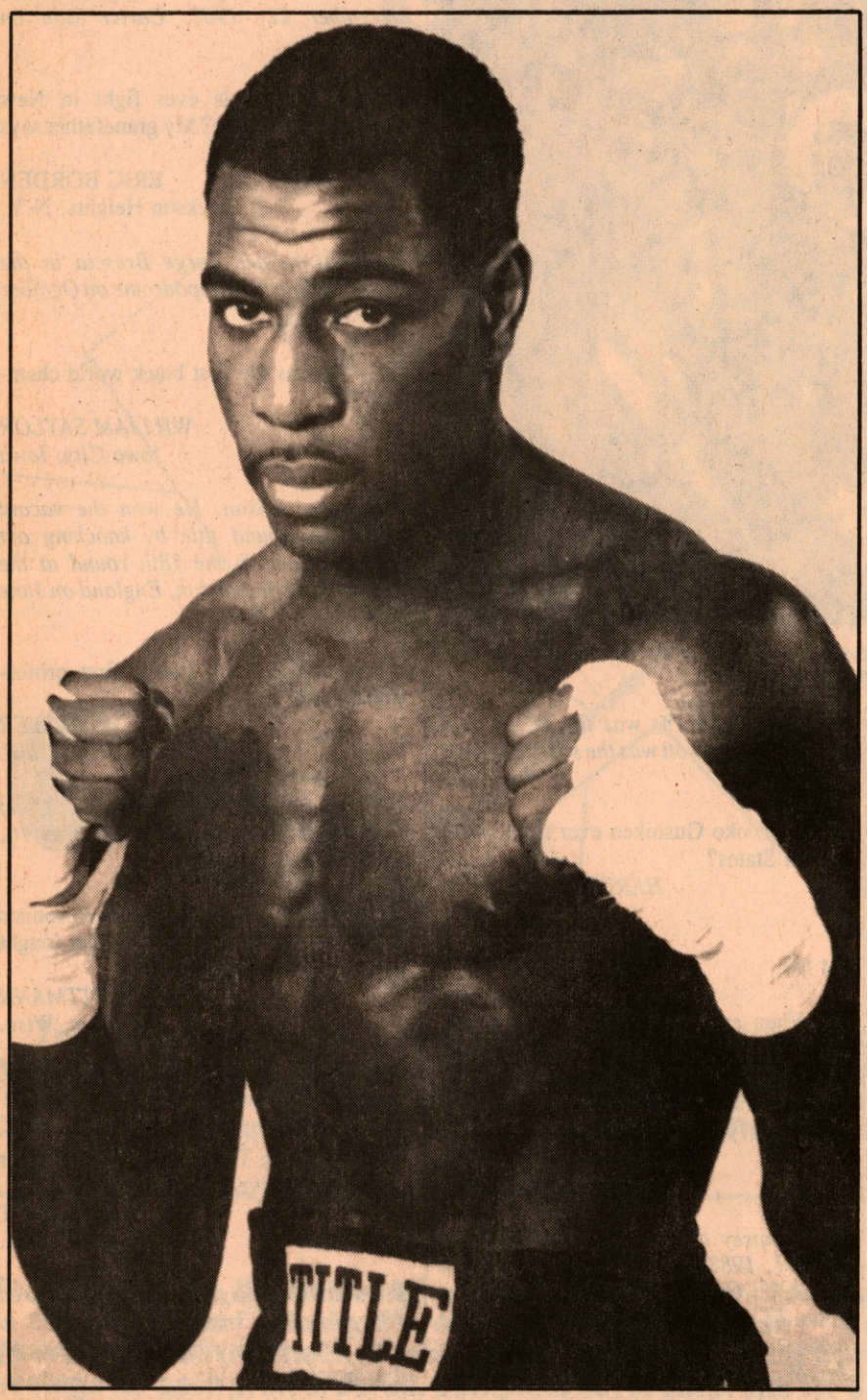
A: *Depends upon the rules of the commission.*

Q: Does Mike Tyson hold the record for most consecutive kayoes?

AL BRANDT
Los Angeles, Calif.

A: *No. Heavyweight Lamar Clark scored 44 consecutive knockouts from 1958 to 1960. Most of his victims were third and fourth raters.* □

Frank Bruno: THE MAN WHO WOULD BE KING



Big, Brave and British, Bruno Goes After Witherspoon's WBA Heavyweight Crown

by Jonathan Shapiro

ASK BRITON'S BEST KNOWN ACTIVE heavyweight for his nickname, and he will tell you "Blackwell Tunnel, because my nose is so big." Not quite what you would expect, but then again this is Frank Bruno, English and European Heavyweight Champion, a man with a sense of humor.

How else do you explain his recent BBC television appearance, dressed in drag, for a send-up of "Romeo and Juliet," to benefit Ethiopian famine relief? Or the glee with which he talks about the comedians on the London cabaret circuit who specialize in Bruno impersonations?

Ask him about his upcoming fight against Tim Witherspoon for the WBA championship, however, and Britain's greatest heavyweight prospect becomes dangerously serious. "Fighting Witherspoon means making history."

At least from an economic point of view, Bruno may be right. The fight, tentatively scheduled for July in front of 60,000 in Wembly Stadium, London, will probably end up being the biggest boxing event ever held in Europe. Veteran promoter Mike Barret estimates a £5 million gate, and negotiations with American cable television services may push the figure up even higher.

For Bruno (28-1, 27 knockouts), victory over Witherspoon means more than future big pay-days in HBO's proposed

Frank Bruno displays the magnificent physique British fans hope will carry their man to the world heavyweight title.

Bonecrusher Smith (left) explains how he knocked out Bruno in the 10th and final round of their 1984 match in London. So far, it is the only loss on Bruno's pro record.

tournament to unify the three rival claims for the crown. He earned this championship shot by destroying previously top-ranked WBA contender Gerrie Coetzee last March. If he can beat Witherspoon, Frank will enter the record books as the first Englishman in this century to become heavyweight champion of the world—that is, if you accept the WBA version of the title.

And in England, where things have gotten so bad that certain fans claim Bob Fitzsimmons as their own, despite the fact that he left the country when he was two years old, part of the belt is clearly better than nothing.

Bruno knows history is against him. Since the days of "Fainting" Phil Scott, the Horizontal Heavyweight, British heavies have never been particularly well-regarded on the other side of the Atlantic. The best of the lot—Tommy Farr, Don Cockell, and Henry Cooper—were good, but they lacked heavyweight dimensions. None of them carried the big punch, although the boys down at Tom Crib's Pub in Leicester Square still speak of Cooper's one glorious left hook, the one which floored Cassius Clay 23 years ago.

Even with their physical limitations, the trio might have fared better, had they not had the rather bad luck of facing American champions Joe Louis, Rocky Marciano, and Muhammad Ali, respectively. Against that level of opposition, even the scrappiest British prospects seemed like rank outsiders.

At 6'3", and 230 lbs. of solid muscle, Bruno is a genuine heavyweight by anyone's standards. Over here they believe he has arrived at just the right time to challenge a division which now lacks a single, dominant figure.

"If there was an Ali, a Holmes, a Frazier, out there, maybe I would not feel so confident," Bruno said recently. "The way it looks now, though, there is not anybody I can't take."

In England, where boxing is only slightly less popular than the Royal Family, Bruno's quest for the heavyweight crown has made him a national celebrity, the second most popular sports figure in the land, right behind Irishman Barry McGuigan.

"Big, brave, and British" is how the papers describe him here. Bruno's face is seen almost daily, on posters for a number of charities, in music videos for local London bands, on news broadcasts. And now, as he stands on the threshold of winning the richest title in all sport, he may, some think, become one of the most popular English sports heroes ever.

Since the Eklund fight, a quicker, more mature Bruno has improved steadily. Although he still lacks a fluid style, his destruction of Coetzee made it clear that he carries dynamite in both hands.

It is a small, but promising sign for a country which, in recent times, has had its share of racial strife. Bruno's manager Terry Lawless has declared that "Bruno can do for black-white relations what McGuigan is doing for unity in Ireland," and it is nice to think that this means that both men can do a lot. There surely must be some social significance in the fact that this son of Jamaican parents from unfashionable Wandsworth has been accepted by the public as one of their own.

"Several years ago, it would have seemed impossible that a black athlete could win the public over so completely," British Boxing Board of Control member Dan Gill noted recently. "But today, Bruno is everybody's man."

His fans are nothing if not loyal. When he suffered his only defeat, back in 1984, at the hands of Bonecrusher Smith, Bruno received 500 letters of support, including a £10 donation from a striking miner. His participation in numerous charities, combined with more victories, especially his first round knockout of Coetzee, have only enhanced the soft-spoken Londoner's reputation.

Of course, all this British confidence in Bruno may come as a surprise to Americans. Those who remember him at all know him as the slow, lumbering giant without a jab who outpointed Bonecrusher Smith for nine rounds only to be knocked out in the 10th and final round. The best you could say about Britain's best that night was that he was as large as the Q.E.2—and moved about as fast.

The defeat was a heartbreaker for Bruno, and for manager Lawless, who

blames the loss on his man's age. "You have to remember, he was an English 22 year-old, which isn't like an American 22 year-old. Frank was not sophisticated, not worldly. The hype, the lights, they psyched him out."

Only a very young or very foolish fighter would have made the mistake of taking a points lead into the final round, and then stand toe-to-toe with one of the world's premier punchers. Eager to make a good impression in front of the American telivision cameras, Bruno was looking for a knockout. What he found instead was a place on the canvas.

Bruno makes no excuses for the loss. "I think everything happens for a reason. Losing to Smith gave me the time to go back and learn more skills. Most of all, it taught me about myself."

Slowly, he worked his way back with wins over lesser opponents. In 1985, against Sweden's Anders Eklund, for the European heavyweight championship, Bruno displayed a new, effective jab. That win gave him much needed confidence, both in his boxing ability, and in his ability to deal with the ever-present trappings of fame. No longer shy and reserved, Bruno now comes across as witty and eloquent.

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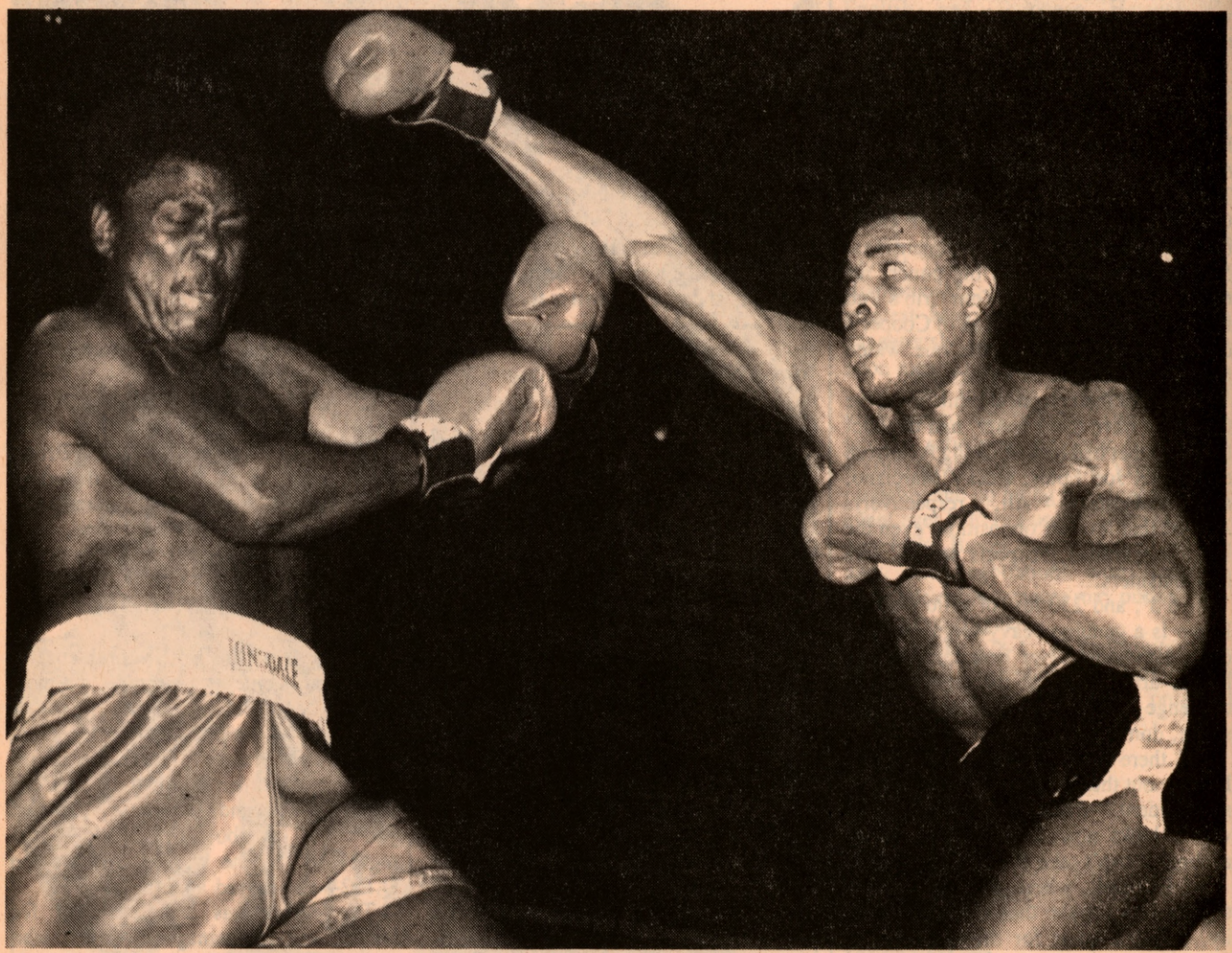
Bruno is only too aware that "in the States they think I am a stiff, washed-up English champion who can't take a punch." The sturdiness of his chin is still in question, partly because he has not faced many opponents who can trade blows. There is certainly no shame in being knocked out by Smith, but lesser known American Jumbo Cummings also had him in serious trouble back in 1983.

Critics point out that his glossy record has been carefully cultivated by Lawless, who has produced a steady string of unknown victims for his man. There are those who suggest that his biggest win to date came over an overweight, over-age, and apathetic Coetzee. Bruno, who had only 20 amateur fights, readily admits that he is still learning the game, that he has needed the time to develop.

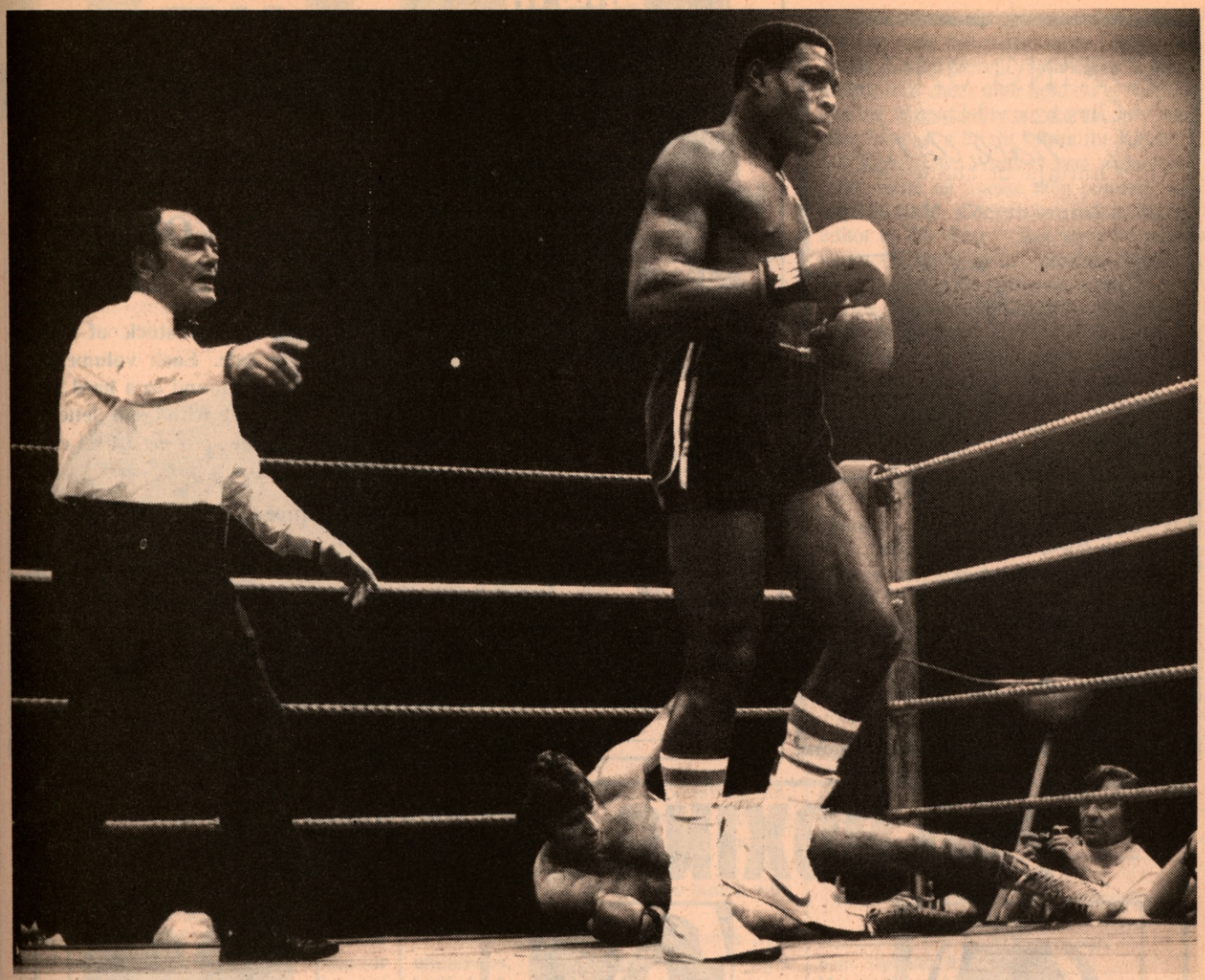
The one thing no once can doubt, however, is Bruno's dedication to the sport. In 1980, after winning the English Amateur heavyweight championship, he applied for his professional license, only to be turned down by the Board on medical grounds. He was too shortsighted.

Without boxing, Bruno had little to look



British heavyweight hope Frank Bruno attacks Walter (Mad Dog) Santemore on his way to a fourth-round knockout.

Referee Harry Gibbs sends Bruno to a neutral corner after Frank decked hapless Juan Figueroa in the opening round. It was easy wins such as this that left Bruno unprepared for Bonecrusher Smith.



forward to, beyond occasional work on building sites, and lots of fading dreams. "Life has its ups and downs," Bruno reflected recently, "and not getting my license would have definitely been a down."

With funding from a supportive Lawless, Bruno traveled alone to Bogota, Colombia for an operation to correct his vision. Unable to speak the language, lonely, and homesick, Bruno endured the six week recuperation period by thinking of the career he would have when it was over. Since then, he has had no trouble with his sight.

Trainer Jimmy Tibbs has a hard time keeping his man from working out too much, and Bruno himself admits to loving his sessions in the gym. In his spare time, he enjoys long treks in the countryside with his two new dogs. On a recent vacation to Spain, he spent most of his time running on the beach. "He is like a jockey," Lawless says, "not an ounce of fat on him. And he is getting stronger all the time."

In England, where boxing is only slightly less popular than the Royal Family, Bruno's quest for the heavyweight crown has made him a national celebrity, the second most popular sports figure in the land, right behind Irishman Barry McGuigan.

Bruno knows that a great deal depends on the outlook and condition of his sometimes enigmatic opponent, Tim Witherspoon. If Witherspoon underestimates the Englishman, then the American may go the way of Coetzee. If, on the other hand, Witherspoon arrives fit and mentally prepared, then he will give Bruno the toughest competition he has yet faced. While Bruno has looked better each time he has fought, it will take the performance of his career to stop a sincere Witherspoon.

Yet watching Bruno go through his routine in the old gym above the Royal Oak Pub, it is clear that he has confidence to burn.

"I've trained for this fight for five years. It's a dream come true for me. You tell Witherspoon not to blink. Tell him he'll have to kill me to beat me."

The man who would be king is ready to write history. □

Jonathan Shapiro is an amateur boxer and Rhodes Scholar, currently studying at Oxford University in England.

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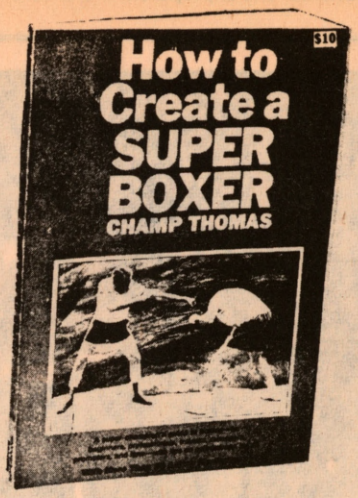

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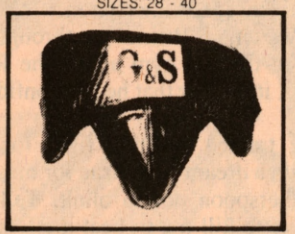

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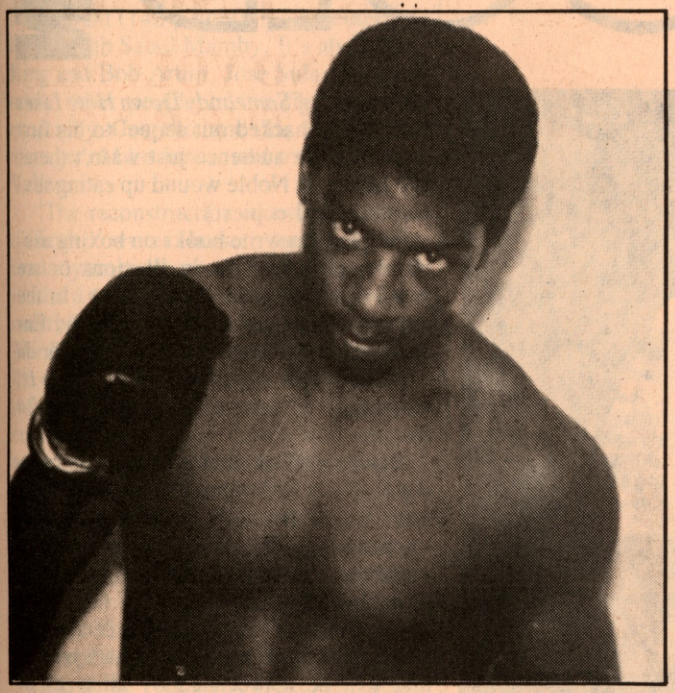
New Faces

by Bill Savage



KEVIN WATTS

IF YOU PLAN TO TAKE A RIDE TO THE New Jersey seashore, and in doing so pass through Pleasantville, keep your eyes on the phone booths. A mild-mannered, Clark Kent look-alike may emerge in the guise of a boxing Superman. The Clark Kent look-alike of whom we speak is South Jersey's latest entry in the chase for Marvelous Marvin Hagler's undisputed middleweight title—Kevin (Killer) Watts.

The youngest of a family of 10, Watts chose boxing as his vehicle of expression in spite of the diversified interests and endeavors of other members of his family. The result of his decision to become a professional boxer has resulted, to date, in a 14-1 (eight kayoes) record.

Watts' lone defeat is vigorously disputed by manager/trainer Mike Hall. Mike contends that Watts was so far ahead in his bout with Keith Todd that he should have been given the benefit of the doubt when Todd rocked him with less than a minute to go in the final round. Both Hall and Kevin agree that the "Killer" was not in serious trouble when the referee called a halt.

In contrast to most fighters, Watts had little amateur experience. He devoted most of his time to wrestling and his job at the Pleasantville Recreation Center. But at the urging of friend Rodney Smith, Kevin turned to boxing, finally deciding to make a career of the sweet science.

At 6-foot-1, Kevin posseses an awesome left jab, but he can also punch with authority.

Following a succession of wins over unknowns, Watts surprised many fight buffs by boxing and slugging his way to a 10-round decision over rugged veteran Dwight (Tiger) Walker, a rough, tough character with a reputation for bending the rules. Watts' win over such a respected campaigner made a lot of folks sit up and take notice.

Wanting to test the true mettle of their young prospect, his management then matched Kevin with James (Hard Rock) Green, a perennial contender who's been in and out of the world ratings for a number of years. Green had provided John (The Beast) Mugabi with his toughest fight (until Hagler, of course), and was expected to extend Kevin to the fullest.

Again, it was no contest. Watts did everything one can reasonably expect from a young fighter still learning his trade, winning a one-sided decision over 10 rounds.

Watts also has the advantage of a highly supportive family. Led by his mother, Evelyn, and his older sister, Irma, the Watts family present themselves in large numbers to cheer their hero on to victory. But the Watts family are not the only ones who forecast a bright future for Kevin.

"Right now, Watts is long armed and relies more on finesse than power," observes Jack Obermayer, contributing editor to *The Ring*. "But when he learns how to sit down on his punches, he could be a fighter to be reckoned with."

Jim Taylor, ace Atlantic City press agent who hyped Kevin's early bouts at the Tropicana Hotel-Casino, also feels Watts is a fighter to watch.

"Kevin's appearance is deceiving," says Taylor. "He's so tall and lanky, guys figure they can push him around. But that's where his wrestling experience pays off. Both Walker and Green have a reputation for out-muscling their opponents. But it didn't work with Watts. He knows how to handle himself on the inside."

Yes, in many ways, Watts is a fighting contradiction. Soft spoken and bespectacled outside of the ring, once the bell rings, he's transformed into one of the most promising young 160-pounders on the East Coast. Whether or not he becomes a true fistic Superman still remains to be seen, but bullies beware: Kevin Watts is definitely not the kind of guy to sit still while you kick sand in his face. □

THE PROFESSIONAL RING RECORD OF KEVIN WATTS

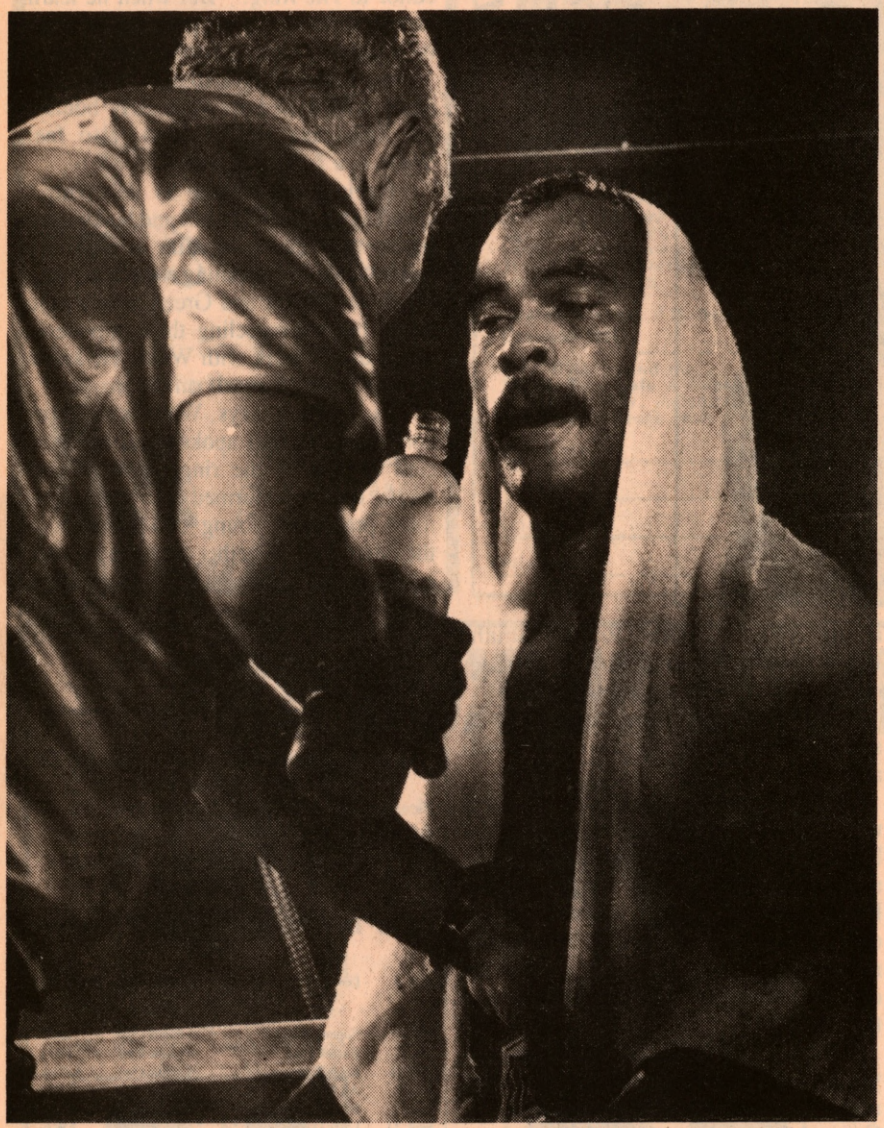
Pleasantville, New Jersey middleweight
Born: September 9, 1961
Manager/trainer: Michael Hall

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
	1983		
Nov. 8	David Barrow	Atlantic City	KO 4
	1984		
Jan. 17	Eugene Dixon	Atlantic City	KO 1
Feb. 8	Russell Hart	Atlantic City	KO 1
Feb. 25	Keith Todd	Atlantic City	KO by 4
June 5	Ali Bey	Atlantic City	KO 4
Aug. 7	Neil Jackson	Atlantic City	W 4
Sept. 11	Larry Davis	Atlantic City	W 6
Oct. 23	Osley Silas	Atlantic City	W 4
Nov. 20	Jerome Johnson	Atlantic City	W 8
	1985		
Jan. 15	Eddie Barnes	Atlantic City	KO 4
May 15	Willie Perry	Atlantic City	KO 5
June 14	Ali Bey	Atlantic City	KO 5
Oct. 22	Ralph Smiley	Atlantic City	KO 3
Nov. 12	Dwight Walker	Atlantic City	W 10
	1986		
Feb. 11	James Green	Atlantic City	W 10

SUMMARY

TOTAL BOUTS	WINS	LOSSES	DRAWS	KOs
15	14	1	0	8

SOLID GOLD MAN



Victor Vallee gives Bill Costello a drink between rounds. Costello is the subject of a new boxing book by Thomas Hauser, entitled THE BLACK LIGHTS.

BOOKS ON BOXING DO NOT SELL. IT would astound the most passionate of boxing buffs to know that a biography of Gerry Cooney would not sell nearly as well as a biography of Anna Pavlova, but the indications are that this is so. (One of the biggest flops in publishing history proved to be Muhammad Ali's autobiography, *The Greatest*. Ali received a six-figure advance, but literary critics turned thumbs down on the ghosted job, and sales were dismal. Rocky Graziano promoted the hell out of *Somebody Down Here Likes Me, Too*, a hacked out sequel to his first book, but the audience just wasn't there, and Barnes & Noble wound up eating several thousand copies.)

People who write books on boxing usually stand knee-deep in illusions or are passionately in love with boxing. In the latter category are Hank Kaplan and Enrique Encinosa, two denizens of Florida who combined to write *Boxing: This Is It*, a potpourri of essays about fighters in 24 chapters.

Hank and Rick deal with fighters ranging from Jack Dempsey to Angel Robinson Garcia, generally devoting a chapter to each man. The essays are really short vignettes, describing the essential flavor of each fighter's background, ring style, and personality. As such, it succeeds. The result is a good series of "quick reads" that will be appreciated by all types of boxing fans. Hard cover, 245 pages, $17.95 per copy. Send all orders direct to: ETC Publications, P.O. Drawer ETC, Palm Springs, Calif. 92263-1608. California residents, please add 6% sales tax.

"Of all the books we have read, and this literally includes many hundreds, it is our considered judgment that Thomas Hauser's book—*The Black Lights*—is unquestionably the most important, interesting and informative book on boxing either of us has ever read."

Those are the written words of Jim Jacobs and Bill Cayton, co-owners of Big Fights, Inc., the world's leading dealer in boxing films. The words must bring respect. Jim is one of boxing's leading historians—and the manager of current heavyweight sensation Mike Tyson.

I have to agree. Hauser, a New York author and attorney, whose book, *Missing*, was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize and made into a celebrated movie, has gotten to the meat of the contemporary fight game—what it's really like to be a fighter, a promoter, a manager, and a trainer. If a congressman wished to read a book on boxing that would tell him what the sport was really "all about" and complement his reading of statistics about contests, injuries, and earnings, then *The*

Black Lights would be the book.

The book is set against the background of what Hauser heard, saw, and experienced from August 9, 1984, when he joined Bill Costello's training camp, through November 3, 1984, when Costello successfully defended his WBC super lightweight (140-pound) title by outpointing late sub Saoul Mamby. It's about Don King and Bob Arum, Jose Sulaiman, and many other people in the fight game—especially Costello and his family, his manager, Mike Jones, and trainer, Victor Vallee.

"The reconstruction of events is often difficult," writes Hauser, "and this is particularly true in the world of boxing, where it's hard to separate fact from fiction and reality from myth. Still, I'm confident that *The Black Lights* is an honest portrayal of the sport and business of professional boxing as they exist today." I'm more than confident. *The Black Lights* will not sell anywhere near as many copies as some of Hauser's other (non-boxing) books. Nonetheless, he has done all who would know boxing, as it really is, a service. Get a copy (McGraw-Hill Book Company, 1221 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10020, $16.95) and become an "expert." There's a lot more to the "fight game" than you see in record books.

I'M MORE THAN HAPPY TO REPORT that the "Solid Goldman" column in the May issue of *The Ring* ("The Ten Worst Decisions of All-Time") brought forth a deluge of positive comments from fight fans and scribes alike. This list continues where the first left off.

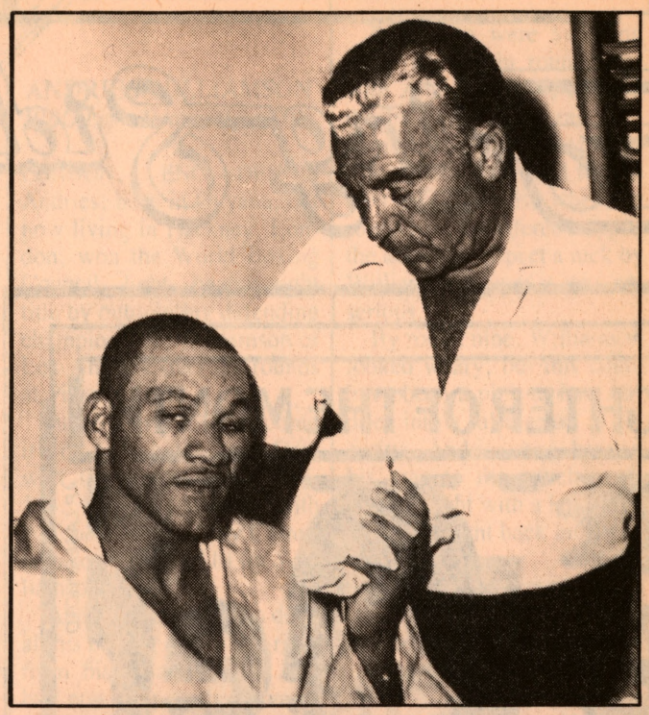
11. **Carlos Hernandez vs. Eddie Perkins, January 18, 1965, Nuevo Circo, Caracas, Venezuela.** Two Venezuelan judges gave the world junior welterweight title to their countryman, Hernandez, in a decision that even the Venezuelan press was forced to vilify. Henry Armstrong, who refereed, scored the fight for Perkins by a comfortable margin. The decision outraged Armstrong even more than it did Perkins.

12. **Renaldo Snipes vs. Gerrie Coetzee, August 9, 1981, New Westchester Theatre, Tarrytown, N.Y.** All three officials—referee Joe Cortez, judge Nick Gamboli, and judge Carol Castellano, scored this 10-round contest for Coetzee on points. Cortez and Gamboli, though, *gave* it to Snipes, 5-4-1, in rounds—which made him the official winner. Snipes was down in sessions one and four and staggered in the last two frames. I saw this fight in person. What a joke!

13. **Willie Pastrano vs. Harold Johnson, June 1, 1963, Convention Center, Las Vegas, Nev.** Johnson was off form, but anybody who really watched the fight knew he won. A split decision win for Willie. Lord knows what the real story was in that one.

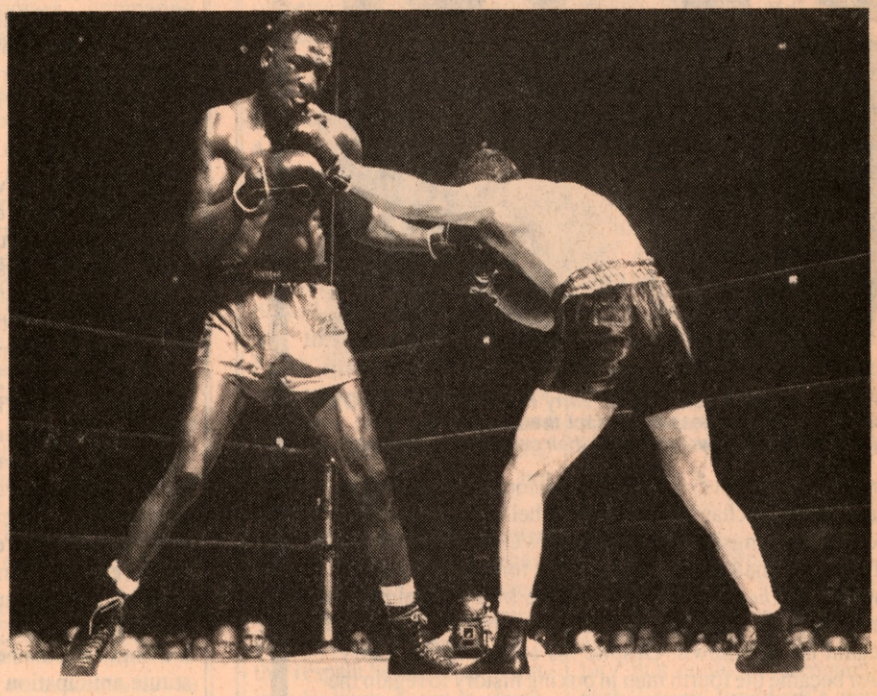
14. **Jersey Joe Walcott vs. Joe Louis, December 5, 1947, Madison Square Garden, New York, N.Y.** The judges gave the fight to Louis, but the Bomber's friend, ref Ruby Goldstein, carded it for Walcott. "I know Ruby," Louis said. "He calls 'em like he sees 'em." Now that's *class*.

15. **Jake LaMotta vs. Tommy Bell, March 14, 1947, Madison Square Garden, New York, N.Y.** Jake was the victim of a bad call in one of his dukes with Ray Robinson, but there is no way he beat Tommy Bell in 1947. You win some, you lose some. That's the fight game. □



We wuz robbed! Manager Pat Olivieri tries to console former light heavyweight champion Harold Johnson after he lost his crown to Willie Pastrano in Las Vegas.

"Solid Goldman" says there was no way Jake LaMotta (right) beat Tommy Bell when they met at Madison Square Garden on March 14, 1947, but LaMotta got the decision anyway.



Ring Side Reports

FIGHTER OF THE MONTH

AP LASERPHOTO

One last honor for an old champ. Larry Holmes is THE RING'S Fighter of the Month despite the fact that Michael Spinks retained the IBF heavyweight title in their controversial rematch.

Larry Holmes did not receive the decision in his Las Vegas rematch with Michael Spinks, but a helluva lot of folks, including our ringside reporter Jack Welsh, figured he won the fight. It's small consolation, but the former heavyweight champion is *The Ring*'s Fighter of the Month. Holmes may be a bitter man, but you can't help admire his valiant effort to regain his old crown. Despite his eroded skills, Larry *almost* became the fourth man in boxing history to regain the heavyweight title.

Runner-up spot goes to Mexican **Rene Arredondo** for his fifth round knockout over Lonnie Smith for the WBC super lightweight crown in Los Angeles. This match had been postponed a number of times, but when he finally got his chance, Arredondo capitalized in no uncertain terms.

Honorable mentions go to three other new champions: England's **Dennis Andries**, who decisioned J.B. Williamson for the WBC light heavyweight belt; Philly's **Gary Hinton**, who outpointed Reyes Cruz for the vacant IBF junior welterweight title; and Californian **Henry Tillman**, who won the NABF cruiserweight championship with a first round blowout over Bash Ali. □

TYSON-TILLIS

GLENN FALLS, N.Y.—Along the way to greatness, it's common to make a stop or two that doesn't quite fit the itinerary. These affairs tend to grow in notoriety with the passage of time. Even Marvin Hagler had his Boogaloo Watts and Willie Monroe. Well, Mike Tyson may have had his, struggling to a less-than-commanding unanimous decision over James (Quick) Tillis in an unfulfilling 10.

Flash-in-the-pans frequently don't have them at all—until the roof caves in. And of course, there are many for whom an off-night is a portent of doom. Which way Tyson goes from here on depends on how he handles the experience. But if this was his "bad" performance, he'll probably survive the trial no worse than Don King did his.

However, the 7,591 fans who packed the Civic Center in this bustling Adirondack resort community weren't here for a lesson. The witches brew required to concoct a box office "draw" can elude even the shrewdest promoters, but certainly the big punch can be as effective at the gate as on the chin. A puncher can substitute anticipation for action. When the bell rings, it's bases loaded, bottom of the ninth . . . first and goal . . . the inbound pass with two seconds on the clock in a one-point game, all rolled into one. The crowd this particular afternoon was there to see a mugging, not the education of Mike Tyson.

In the dressing room, Tillis was quiet, resolute. The Tulsa veteran had been here before. His battle plan admitted a tacit concern for Tyson's power. James intended to move, and his weight, 207¾, was evidence of his excellent condition. Meanwhile, the Catskill favorite, at 215, was relaxed and smiling. All his previous efforts had gone smoothly, setting no precedent to expect otherwise. A joking reference to how the bulge of his protective cup would look on national television was the closest thing to concern.

The noise was deafening as the fighters entered the coliseum. The announcements could be interpreted only by gesture. Tillis' introduction was drowned in boos, Tyson's in a wave of cheers.

The expected battle lines were quickly drawn. The Oklahoman moved away, working his left well but taking no chances. Tyson stalked, throwing few punches. But every one he threw was designed to be his last. It wasn't until the third round that the first explosion occurred.

Tillis had slowed a step, and late in the round, Mike nailed him with a long right over Tillis' low left. The stump-like Tyson has a deceptively long reach, which makes it hard for opponents to run away. Though Tillis "broke" with the punch, he was still hurt and wobbled against the ropes, where a left hook and another right raked him. But an overanxious Tyson flailed wildly and the threat evaporated in a swirling mist of spent leather.

If Tillis wasn't going to be knocked out, he at least wouldn't escape without

being down. In the fourth, Tyson dipped almost to the canvas in an exaggerated defense. When he repeated the surprise move, a sweeping left hook whizzed over his head and Tillis careened off balance. Then, Mike bobbed up with a sharp left hook counter to the head, and Tillis went down. The knockdown was generally dismissed as a fluke, but James had been nailed by a clean shot.

In past fights, Tyson had been hailed for his body punching; but it was curiously missing from his attack for most of this match, except for a rally late in the fifth which left Tillis visibly hurting along the ropes.

In the second half of the fight, the tone changed, not dramatically, but graphically. Tyson's pre-fight relaxation was beginning to resemble his battle plan, as his attack waned to an occasional skirmish. He didn't appear tired, just diffident about venturing into new territory. The crowd reacted like a lynch mob. They were there for an execution, not a pardon. What was going on anyway?

Tyson began to show he was human. Tillis frequently dared to stand and punch, and began winning the rounds. Upon reaching the 10th, the visitor became almost reckless, as the action heated to a rousing finish. Tyson ducked many of Tillis' punches, until James started to go underneath, jolting Mike's head several times. An almost desperate rally by Tyson seemed to hurt Tillis just before the final bell, perhaps stealing the round for the local hero.

The decision was close enough to be interesting. Bernie Friedkin and Al Reid both voted for Tyson, 6-4, while Tony Morette had it 8-2, also for Mike.

At the post-fight gathering, which was bigger than some live gates, the pre-fight demeanor of the contestants seemed reversed. The winner was dead serious and almost apologetic as he earnestly tried to explain what had taken place. With words pouring forth as his punches hadn't, Mike said it was a relief to have his 19-bout knockout streak broken.

"I didn't have the concentration to work the body," Tyson admitted. "I was looking for one punch to get him hurt."

Tyson also explained that concern over going the distance, rather than actual fatigue, made him skittish about launching a sustained attack in the later rounds. Curiously, Mike seemed genuinely disturbed by Tillis' punching power. By contrast, James raved about his conqueror's power, comparing him favorably with everyone he's faced. In fight parlance, this is close to damning with praise. When a guy rings your bell, you're never hurt, but when you take his best shots, he's a thunderous puncher.

If the critics are down on Tyson, they shouldn't be. It all depends on whether he learned more from his afternoon with Quick Tillis than his future opponents did. Trainer Kevin Rooney was cautiously diplomatic with the press, but animatedly jawboned Mike immediately after the bout's conclusion. As to Tillis? Well, don't forget what happened to Trevor Berbick.

James Broad, 251, Wildwood, N.J., got a scare before stopping stubborn Bobby Crabtree, 198¾, Little Rock, Arkansas, at 1:27 of the fifth round in a scheduled 10. Joe Cortez, referee.

Calvin Grove, 128, Coatsville, Pa., survived a 10th round knockdown to win a unanimous decision over Pepe Vasquez, 125½, Hartford, Conn., 10. Sid Rubinstein, referee.

Tony Montgomery, 157¼, Detroit, won a unanimous decision over washed-up Pete Seward, 158, Columbus, Ohio, in a dreadful eight. Al Bianco, referee.

Stephen Frost, 156¾, Albany, received a unanimous decision over Mike Peoples, 157¼, Monticello, after eight rounds of ineffectual milling. Al LoBianco, referee.

Milton Torres, 133½, Holyoke, Mass., won a majority decision over Jose (Speedy) Gonzales, 136, Troy, N.Y., four. Sid Rubinstein, referee.

HBA East & Tri-City Promotions.
Matchmaker—Ron Katz.
Timekeeper—Carol Blair.
Ring Announcer—Paul LeFleur.
(05-03-86)

J.R. JOWETT

ANDRIES-WILLIAMSON
WBC Light Heavyweight Title

LONDON, ENG.—DENNIS Andries, born in Guyana, but now living in Hackney, London, won the World Boxing Council light heavyweight title by outpointing defending champion J.B. Williamson of Los Angeles over 12 rounds at Picketts Lock.

Judge Harry Gibbs scored it 166-114, judge Jean Deswert (Belgium) carded 118-116, both to Andries, with American judge Tony Castellano scoring 115-113 for Williamson.

Andries, now 32, has done all his boxing in Britain, right from his amateur days, and has now reaped the rewards of perseverance after periods of bad luck which could have made him decide to retire.

However, manager Greg Steene had faith in him, and a year ago Andries went to America for the experience, winning his three fights, all inside the distance, and gaining confidence.

Promoter Frank Warren played a large part in obtaining this title fight. When Frank's normal venue, the Alexandra Pavilion, was not available he secured Picketts Lock in Edmonton, Enfield, North London, a venue not used before.

It was a fight of non-stop action with very little regard paid to defense. We had been led to believe that Williamson was essentially a boxer, but in this respect he was disappointing, looking, at times, downright clumsy.

Andries, left hand held low, oozed confidence from the opening bell, driving his man across the ring. This was Williamson's first defense, and he may not have expected such early aggression. At the end of round one, Andries was caught with a low blow that obviously hurt, but the bell immediately sounded.

Both men were swinging away merrily in round two, with Andries' blows looking the more effective, and Williamson having to cover up. The pattern continued for the next three rounds, when, in round five, the referee stopped the action to inspect a nick by Williamson's eye; it was not serious.

By round nine, Williamson looked weary, but this could have been a ploy to lure Andries into a false sense of security. Andries was beating his man to the punch, and, when caught with a left hook, waded straight back into Williamson.

When the bell rang for the start of round 11, Andries looked ahead by a couple of rounds, and it was then that Williamson staged a rally. He looked desperate, as if realizing that the fight was slipping away. Nevertheless, he was effective, as he used his superior height and reach to drive his man back.

This was Williamson's round, so, with no knowledge of how the judges were scoring, Andries just had to win the 12th and final round. And he did, never giving Williamson a moment's rest as he came forward throwing punches. Both were weary now, and exchanges mostly ended with them falling into each other's arms. Andries, however, was still working at close quarters.

This was a typical "survival of the fittest" contest. It was all about determination, and Andries brought off a victory that could be compared with Jimmy Braddock's win over Max Baer. We now have a new "Cinderella Man," who when interviewed afterwards said, "I'm not 32. I'm 37." No one was quite sure if he was joking.

Andries added: "This victory means a lot to me. I'm no Sugar Ray Leonard, but I do my best. I'm cool and calm, and I know what I can do. I know I'm a bit rough,

but that's the game. J.B. is a good fighter. Normally I'm a very unlucky guy, but tonight I made my own luck.

"I won the world title for Britain, and proved a lot of critics wrong. I had faith in myself."

So Dennis follows in the footsteps of the late Freddie Mills and John Conteh in winning the world light heavyweight title. In fact, Conteh helped him with his preparation for the fight.

Dennis said that winning the title wouldn't cause him to change his life-style, and proved it the following morning when, on his way to the Press Conference, he travelled by underground. It cost him 90p.

(04-30-86)

RON OLVER

Bash Ali is down and out in the first round against Henry Tillman in Las Vegas bout for the NABF cruiserweight title.

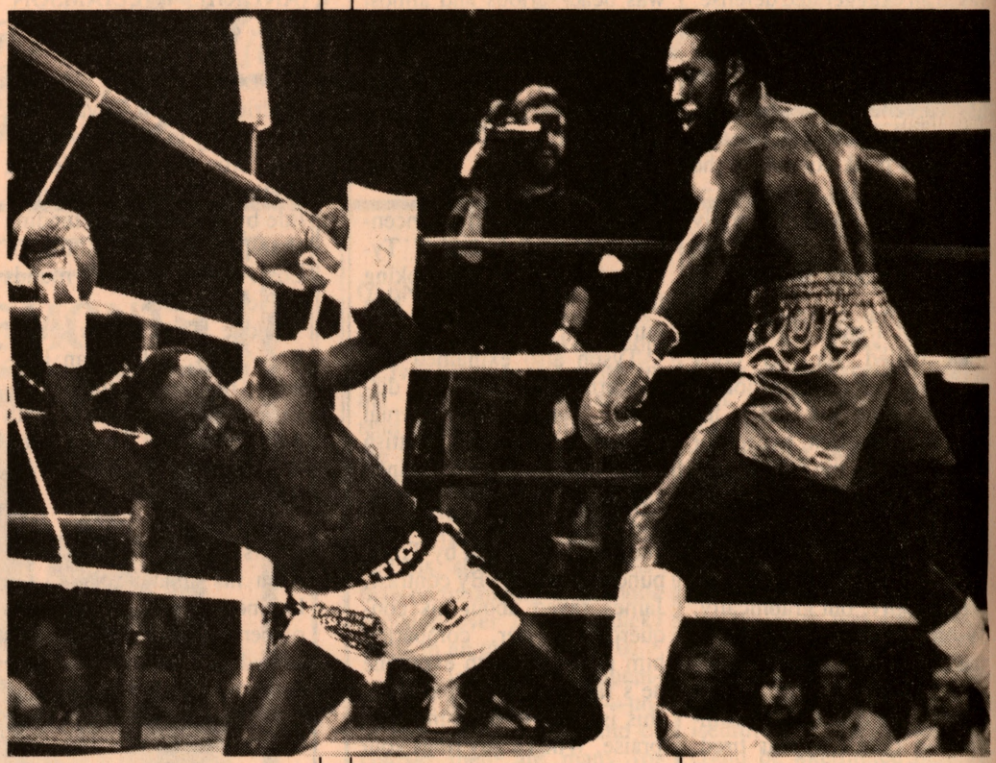


PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA

TILLMAN-ALI
NABF Cruiserweight Title

LAS VEGAS, NEV.—HENRY Tillman, the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic heavyweight champion, needed less than two minutes to nail down a world title shot as promised by Top Rank when he faced veteran Bashiru Ali at the Showboat Hotel-Casino.

The 24-year-old Tillman not only put himself in line to challenge World Boxing Council cruiserweight champion Carlos (Sugar) DeLeon this summer, but took Ali's North American Boxing Federation 195-pound crown with a shocking first round TKO in a bout scheduled for 12 rounds.

Ali, 30, a native of Nigeria now fighting out of Oakland, Calif., not only lost his NABF laurels after three trips to the canvas, but is now certain to fall from the number one cruiser spot accorded him by the WBC, World Boxing Association, and International Boxing Federation.

Tillman, 192, making his second Vegas appearance, improved his record to 10-0 with seven kayoes while Ali, 186¾, suffered only the second stoppage of his career in a record that dips to 27-10 with 13 kayoes.

The Los Angeles boxer-puncher, who defeated the now pro sensation Mike Tyson in the Olympic Box-Off at Caesars Palace in July, 1984, never gave Ali a chance to get untracked, partially missing a right and then dropping the high ranked contender on his back with a left hook.

Rising at referee Joey Curtis' count of "eight," Ali ran into a three-punch salvo and then was wobbled again by a straight right. The smaller Ali staggered back into the ropes, prompting Curtis to give the African native a standing eight-count.

Tillman, a Los Angeles native, resumed his attack, hammering Ali across the ring with a three-punch flurry. Bash tried to clinch, but the well-muscled Henry again smashed the defending NABF champion along the ropes with three straight rights. Visibly dazed, Ali pitched over on his right side and Curtis wisely halted the contest.

There was confusion at mid-ring over the sudden finish, particularly from Ralph Lopez and Sonny Marson, who respectively train and manage Ali. The handlers didn't understand the three-knockdown rule was in effect, and argued that the standing eight-count was not a knockdown.

"Yes, it was a knockdown," Curtis explained. "Only the ropes saved Ali from going out of the ring. If the ropes weren't there, it's a knockdown for sure. I considered it was a knockdown."

Ali's handlers said they will file a protest with the Nevada State Athletic Commission and the NABF, but admitted "we don't expect them to do much."

"We said at the rules meeting that we didn't want Curtis because his record speaks for itself," Lopez declared. "Bash had slipped on one of those knockdowns, and he really never got untracked. We knew Tillman would start fast, but we didn't think it would be like this."

Bash's only other knockout came at the hands of Henry Hearns in two rounds on October 2, 1982 in Las Vegas. He had since won nine out of 11 starts, including a stoppage of Las Vegas' Anthony Davis in nine rounds to win the NABF crown on June 19, 1985 in Reno.

Tillman, 6'3" with power in either hand, was more surprised than anyone over the brevity of his victory.

"This really boosts my confidence, beating a world class fighter like Ali," the Californian said. "I don't think he ever recovered from that first knockdown. This was a puncher against a boxer with hand speed, which is me. Ali

came out like we expected. He was feeling me out while deciding what we were going to do, but Mercer Smith, my trainer, told me not to let him get set. I stepped into the pocket, threw that glancing right and then the hook. This is great, because Bash's California title also was on the line."

Since Tillman hardly broke a sweat, Smith said he'll "probably have a tuneup fight in late May while preparing for DeLeon."

Baby Joe Ruelas, 127¾, Placentia, Calif., had too much power and savvy for rugged Pete Anzudula, 128, Phoenix, winning a unanimous decision, 10.

Ruelas' NABF 126-pound crown was not at stake as he improved his credentials to 19-2 with 15 kayoes. The taller Anzudula suffered his first loss after 15 straight victories, eight by kayo.

Anzudula, using his long reach to advantage, almost put Ruelas down in the first and second rounds with booming right hands, but trainer Jackie McCoy settled the latter down between rounds, and Baby Joe began to take charge in the third.

Ruelas dropped the Arizona boxer in the third with a five-punch combination, cutting his left eye, which was nearly closed at the finish. Ruelas was unable to drop Anzudula again, but in virtually every succeeding round, his well battered rival was on the verge of going down.

In the official scoring, Patricia Jarman voted 97-93, Dave Moretti 98-92, and Paul Smith, 95-93—all for Ruelas.

In a mild surprise, Darrell Thigpen, 117½, Los Angeles, knocked out previously undefeated Gil Davila, 117¾, Pomona, Calif., in 2:00 of the fourth round to win the ESPN Western Regional championship in a scheduled 10.

Thigpen improved his record to 11-3 with nine kayoes when he caught Davila flush on the jaw with a short left hook. The 22-year-old brother of former WBC bantamweight champion Albert Davila dropped like a shot, and was counted out by Curtis. Davila's log dips to 12-1-1 with five kayoes.

Jeff Franklin, 127, Las Vegas, ran his record to 9-1-1 with three kayoes with a unanimous six-round decision over Los Angeles' Danny Garcia, 125, whose record is now 2-0-1 with two knockouts.

Evelio Perez, 135¾, Anaheim, Calif., TKO'd Rigoberto Correa, 131½, Los Angeles, at 2:40 of the sixth and final round. Perez is now 4-0-4 with two kayoes. Correa is 3-3-2 with two knockouts.

Ruben Posada, 149¼, Las Vegas, and Rod Starks, 150, Los Angeles, finished in a technical draw when both fighters were cut after accidentally butting heads in the first round. Posada is now 9-3 with four kayoes. Starks is 3-3-2 with one knockout.
(04-22-86)

JACK WELSH

BOZA-EDWARDS-ALLI

LAS VEGAS, NEV.—EASTER Sunday is poor taste for any kind of a robbery, but that's what appeared to have happened, boxing-wise, at the Showboat Hotel-Casino.

Cornelius Boza-Edwards, a veteran of 56 pro bouts, wound up with his first draw ever in a 10-round main event he appeared to have won over Terrence Alli . . . won everywhere, but with whom it counted—the judges.

Top Rank's Bob Arum had promised the winner of the ABC nationally televised matchup a shot at World Boxing Association lightweight king Livingstone Bramble in early summer. Boza-Edwards apparently comes off the loser in this aspect, since there will be no rematch.

"If Boza had won, he would have fought Bramble," the New York promoter said. "But now we'll try to make Alli with Bramble. You have to be fair about this because Terrence has been boxing with us (Top Rank) regularly in Atlantic City."

Both combatants came out for the last round needing it for the victory, but the controversial decision resulted when one judge gave the round to Alli and another called it even. Mystery here is that the 25-year-old Alli was in full retreat during the final three minutes against the stalking 29-year-old Boza-Edwards, who makes his home in Las Vegas.

Corny delivered the few late punches of the bout when he could catch the tricky New Yorker, who began his career in Georgetown, Guyana in 1979. Ranked as the WBA's number three contender, Boza-Edwards, 135½, was left with a ledger of 44-5-1 with 34 kayoe, while Alli, 136, having won 16 of his last 17 fights, has a 26-4-1, 11 kayoes, record.

In the official voting, judge Art Lurie saw it 96-95 for Alli; Lou Tabat marked it a 95-95 draw while Bill Graham was closer to the media opinions when he saw Boza-Edwards winning, 97-93. *The Ring*'s card was 97-94, Boza-Edwards. No rounds were marked even, and there were no knockdowns.

Wisely, Alli preferred to stick and move rather than trade toe-to-toe with the former World Boxing Council super featherweight champion; but Boza scored with a six-punch salvo in the fifth round, and followed with another series of four punches which drove Alli into his own corner and knocked out the easterner's mouthpiece.

Though missing short combinations throughout, Corney's best round was the eighth, when he mixed hooks and uppercuts in a 10-punch sequence which wobbled Alli and left him nearly going to the wrong corner at the bell.

Alli was later to admit he was hurt "but it was my determination which brought me back." Terrence proved his point in the ninth round with four sporadic right hands which appeared to sting Boza.

Boza-Edwards kept his cool in the dressing room, but manager Mickey Duff will protest to the Nevada State Athletic Commission.

"If this fight was even in the last round, there's no way Alli could be the winner because he was showboating, and running . . . trying to survive," Corny complained. "I wanted to finish him off in the last round, but it's hard to finish off a guy running. You work hard and then the judges . . . I don't know how any judge could give Alli that last round, but that's life."

Virtually unmarked, Alli admitted, "I thought I won the fight, most of the rounds."

"I had done enough to win, so I'm not satisfied with the decision. There's no draws in boxing . . . somebody has to win," Terrence said. "Boza had to knock me out to win. Yeah, I was hurt a little in the eighth round, but it was my determination which brought me back. There would be no problem with a rematch, but the money has to be right."

In the eighth-round semi-windup, Ernie Landeros, 136½, Eagle Rock, Calif., had Ruben Moreno, 136, Los Angeles, down twice before winning on a knockout at 2:19 of the first round. Landeros is now 12-12 with seven kayoes. Moreno falls to 12-6 with six knockouts.

Ruben Posada, 148, Las Vegas, won a unanimous six-round decision over gutty Rocky Granillo, 149¾, Los Angeles, to bring his record to 9-3 with four kayoes. Granillo dips to 8-5 with five knockouts.

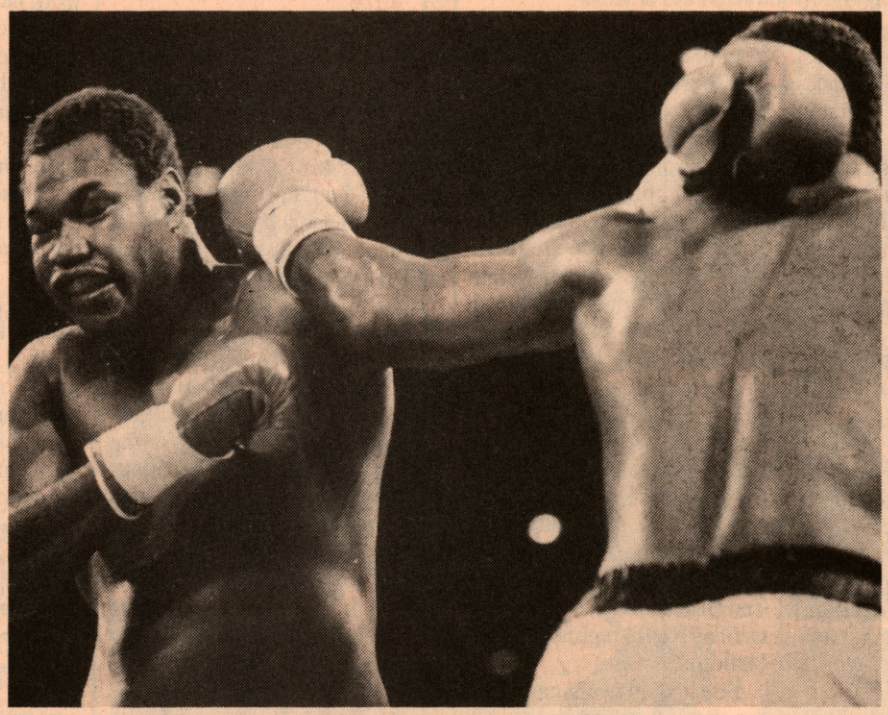
Jeff Franklin, 126½, Las Vegas, scored a TKO victory over Gus Lopez, 127½, Los Angeles, at 2:59 of the fourth round in a scheduled six. Franklin moves to 10-1 with two kayoes. Lopez is now 5-10 with three knockouts.

Joe Mattingly, 207, Louisville, Ky., making his pro debut, came back from a second-round knockdown to kayo a fading Dennis Reddide, 230, Los Angeles, in 2:58 of the fourth and final round.
(03-30-86)

JACK WELSH

Cornelius Boza-Edwards jars Terrence Alli with a right uppercut during their hard-fought lightweight battle that ended up a draw.

PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA



Although critics claim Michael Spinks doesn't punch hard enough to hurt a full-fledged heavyweight, Larry Holmes doesn't exactly seem to be enjoying this left hook to the face.

DLW PHOTOGRAPHY

SPINKS-HOLMES II: WHO REALLY WON?

Spinks Looks Towards Cooney And Unification, While Holmes Heads For Retirement

by Jack Welsh

IF MICHAEL SPINKS' DESTINY IS TO BE an underdog heavyweight champion who just keeps on winning, he's certainly off on the right foot.

Right now, the 29-year-old International Boxing Federation monarch is unflexing his muscles with well-earned rest. Yet the day is not far away when the hype machines will start grinding again for a new defense now that Spinks has proven—controversy notwithstanding—that he is the only man in history who will ever defeat Larry Holmes twice in seven months.

In the eyes of the official judges, Holmes did not quite shake the physical burden of 36 years as an athletic mortal in what was still a great-near miss last April in Las Vegas. When the Easton, Pennsylvania multi-millionaire, ignoring a fractured right thumb, finished on the short side of a 15-round split decision at the Hilton Center, it was begrudgingly Auld Lange Syne to a 14-year professional career.

Ironically, Holmes did fight 50 times, but the desire for 50 victories to break the late Rocky Marciano's all-time heavyweight record was forever shattered by an unorthodox "little guy" named Spinks last September.

A capacity crowd of 8,328, created a live gate of $2,009,000 to watch Spinks, St. Louis-bred, Philadelphia-based, again ignore the opinion of Nevada's licensed oddsmakers. As the challenging undefeated world light heavyweight champion last fall, Michael closed as a 6-1 underdog for his epic surprise at the Riviera Hotel-Casino. Nothing was really conclusive about his victory even though Spinks ended Holmes' roll of 48 straight wins, 34 by knockout. The linemakers didn't believe it; neither did the public.

Once the rematch was announced by Dynamic Duo, Inc. (Don King and Butch Lewis), Holmes was immediately installed as the favorite. The betting masses jumped on it, closing out Larry as a 2-1 pick before the first bell. Only the "wise guy" (smart money) gamblers figured Spinks would get another assist from an undefatigable ally called Father Time. Since this segment of punters isn't much more than one percent of the wagering public, the bookmakers from Las Vegas to Reno-Lake Tahoe scored a financial coup. To a man, sports book operators were surprised the two-way action pushed the total volume to an estimated $10 million.

The results weren't 24 hours old before the Vegas wizards of odds were speculating on the future, particularly when a rumor gained strength that unretired Gerry Cooney might be Spinks' next opponent in September. Such a possibility was contingent upon the Long Island Irishman actually showing up to beat New York's Eddie Gregg in the San Francisco Cow

Palace on May 31.

It wasn't Cooney's 27-1 record, but basically his size that spurred some of Nevada's most knowledgeable boxing minds to view Gerry as the early betting choice over the IBF champion, who, at 205, spotted Holmes 18 pounds.

Cooney couldn't find the motivation to work again (he got a reported $10 million against Holmes) until 1984 when he TKO'd Phil Brown and George Chaplain. Gerry hasn't worked since. It must be noted Gregg is a cut or two above Brown and Chaplain, giving Cooney a chance to jump undeservingly back into the top ten ratings with a victory.

Herbie "Hoops" Lambeck, linemaker at Leroy's sports book in downtown Vegas, and Jack Franzi, his counterpart at the Barbary Coast Hotel-Casino on the Strip, are generally considered the Silver State's gurus in establishing boxing lines that are carried around the nation. They are in reluctant agreement on Cooney.

"If I had to make a number today, Cooney might be the favorite because of his size and height," Lambeck opined. "Gerry stands at least 6′5″, two inches more than Holmes, who seemed to dwarf Spinks. Cooney would probably be close to 230 for Spinks. Perhaps the right price might be 6-5 pick 'em because Michael, pound-for-pound, is a great, dedicated fighter who might outbox Cooney, and finally wear him down."

"Holmes hurt Spinks in the 14th and 15th rounds, and Larry would have never let him get away in his prime. He'd walk right through Spinks' punches," Franzi added. "I thought Holmes beat Spinks, and seven out of 10 customers I talked with thought so too. Now they're talking about Cooney. It's a joke, a disgrace. If you forced me with a gun to make a price right now, I'd have to go for Cooney, or at least 6-5 pick 'em. It's not because Cooney is that good, but because Spinks hasn't proven he can knock out a heavyweight. Oh well, if you're a heavyweight, it's great to be white."

Spinks, relishing what he considers the "two sweetest victories of my career that now match my age (29)," wasn't concerned about Cooney, or any other contender in the Heavyweight World Series, which should continue well into 1987 to determine one undisputed world champion, a condition that hasn't existed since brother Leon Spinks upset Muhammad Ali at the now obsolete Hilton Pavilion February 15, 1978.

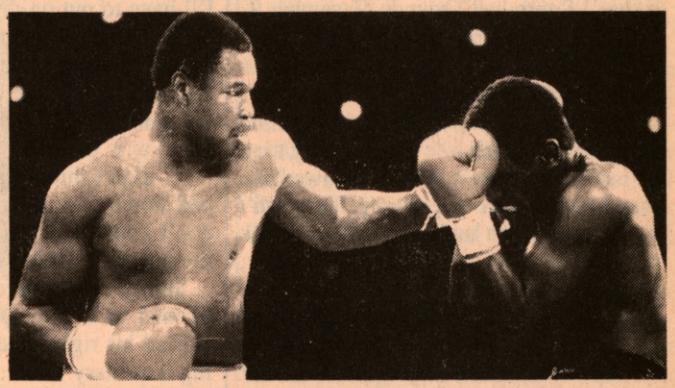
"I'm not even thinking about that, but it makes no difference who I fight," said Michael, who, with Leon, make up the only two brothers to ever win the heavyweight title. "With my style of fighting, I can adjust and beat anybody I want to beat, so it really doesn't matter anyway. I can't pick the people, so I let Butch pick the people, and I knock 'em off."

Lewis, who has been Spinks' adviser since he won a middleweight gold medal at the 1976 Montreal Olympics, was noncommital on Cooney pending the Gregg fight.

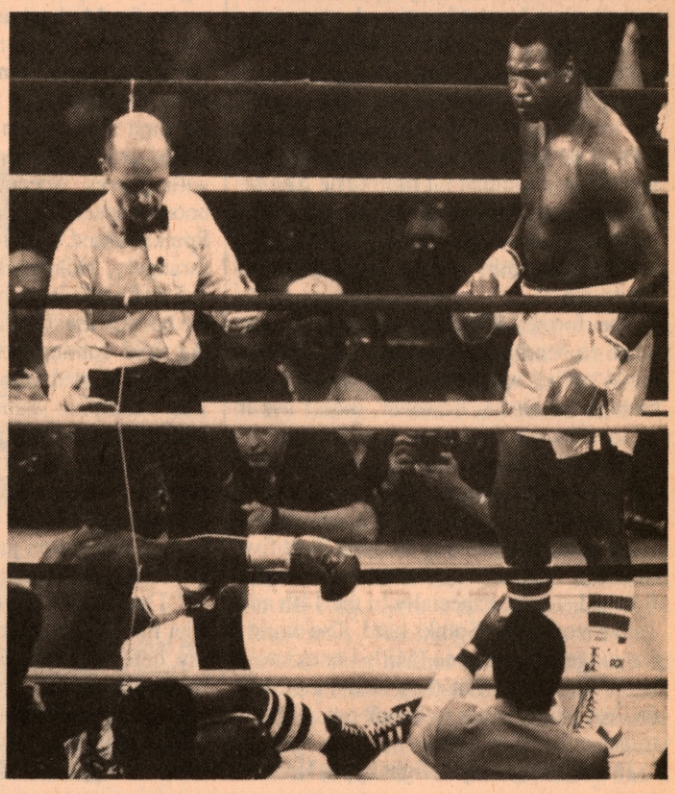
"We can talk about that later—if he wins," the Philadelphia promoter said. "Right now, Michael's kicking back after all that hard work he put in to be razor sharp for Larry. The World Series competition continues on through the summer, but we definitely won't fight again until fall, probably September."

The tournament, for which Home Box Office television reportedly paid an upward of $21 million for exclusive rights, has the IBF titleholder ultimately meeting the winner of a bout between the World Boxing Association champion (Tim Witherspoon), and the World Boxing Council kingpin (Trevor Berbick), but they will have one other defense in the interim.

Though seven and one-half years had clearly tarnished Holmes' potency as the best heavyweight in the known world, it is to Spinks' credit that his daring strategy prevailed in what was far better action than anyone had the right to expect. The champion willingly let Holmes force the pace in the early rounds. There were moments when the Easton Assassin of old



It was solid shots, such as this left hook to the head, that convinced many observers that Larry Holmes had done enough to regain the IBF heavyweight title in his rematch with Michael Spinks.



Their rematch for the IBF heavyweight crown was barely underway when Holmes tried to intimidate Spinks by throwing him to the canvas.

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PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA

materialized, snapping off the jab, and coming over with the right that stunned Spinks as early as the second round. Michael took three booming shots, and stumbled along the ropes, falling into a clinch just before the bell.

Holmes took a four-point lead in the first four rounds, throwing more combinations in that span than he did the entire first meeting when his reflexes betrayed the old champ from the first bell. Larry obviously had viewed Michael as an upstart, a blown-up light heavy he could crush like a grape. As history will long relate, Holmes choked on the seed.

Holmes reportedly fractured the thumb on his right hand in the third round when he hammered Spinks with a solid shot on the top of the head—a repeat of the mishap he suffered stopping James "Bonecrusher" Smith in 12 rounds November 9, 1984 at the Riviera.

Spinks was most gracious during the post-fight post-mortems.

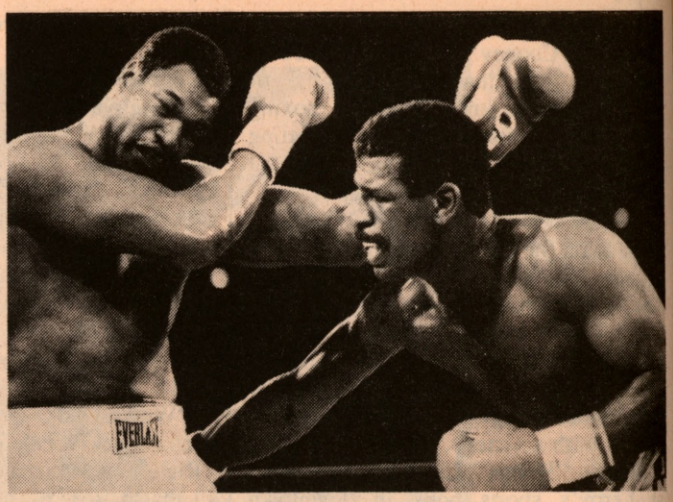
"I have to commend Larry . . . he wasn't over the hill, the old man they tried to make him out to be. He showed me that I had to take everything, he wasn't going to give me nothing. I had to break his morale. I let him have his fun early, but Larry was a diehard. Larry's been one helluva champion, but I won it fair and square.

"I knew he wouldn't get more than four rounds, then I started getting down to business in the sixth round. I had to let him calm down, then I was beating him half to death on the inside as he raced to catch me in the corners. I beat Holmes' jab, so I think he knew he was in with someone he couldn't dominate. I figured he'd come out fast, so I let him go because I didn't want to burn out before he did. From the 10th to the 15th, I was outhustling him toe to toe."

The former WBC/IBF champion was taken to nearby Valley Hospital, where a metal splint was placed on the injured member. Holmes, however, didn't use it as an alibi.

"I knew about it during the fight, but I didn't worry about it," Holmes admitted. "I know I won the fight, and that's what hurts my pride. I had the first five rounds. I coasted two rounds, but I finished strong, especially in the 14th and 15th rounds. I hit Spinks hard. The world, the judges, the referee (Mills Lane) know it. Well, I did what they said I couldn't do, but a fighter has to knock out a fighter to get a decision today."

In acid-tongued pre-fight hype, Holmes had said "I only want Spinks to come out and fight me, and if he doesn't, maybe I'll have to put on my shoulder pads, and tackle him." The bout was hardly a minute old when Holmes, trying to break out of a clinch, threw the champion heavily to the canvas, a maneuver which filled the arena with catcalls.



The strain of battle shows on the faces of both men as they strive for domination. Holmes (left) started fast, but except for a big 14th round, faded the second half of the fight.

"I didn't throw Spinks down, he flopped down . . . he's clumsy that way. I don't know if it had a negative effect on the judges," Holmes said.

Spinks' early defensive blueprint was likened to a semi peek-a-boo style. He carried his right hand high, almost mocking a military salute. Head feints were in vogue for Michael as he darted low from side to side like someone looking for a misplaced contact lens. Assuming this was to be the pattern of the night, much like the first fight when the champion-to-be reeled around the ring like a Ray Bolger with gloves, spectators countered with boos—especially in the third round when Spinks turned his back and walked away. Strangely, Holmes did not give chase.

Spinks tok some heavy cannonading to the body in the fourth round. Though looking tired coming out for the next round, Michael started unwrapping the arsenal. The champion came over Holmes' jab with three solid lefts, and after Larry dropped a right, Spinks appeared to sting Holmes with one of his own. When Holmes rallied with two uppercuts, and a body combination just before the bell, the crowd roared, "Larree, Larree, Larree."

"I had to let Larry know I wasn't afraid. I let him know he couldn't break through my defense," Spinks recalled. "I knew he would only be aggressive so long. The plan was to let him think he was going to have a great night. I didn't throw my right hand as much as I should have, but I had to be careful.

"Larry stunned me twice. Once I was in one place too long, and I said, 'Michael, let's get outta here.' Things were a little hazy, but I wasn't going to go without my luggage. When I fell in the first round, Holmes said, 'Get up.' But the referee straightened him out immediately after that."

Holmes could never be in better condition at this milestone in his life, and he proved it by constantly pressing, and rarely taking a backward step as Spinks scored with three- and four-punch volleys in the eighth and ninth rounds. Trainer Richie Giachetti was imploring Holmes to "keep jabbing, change up more, and throw the right more," a demand originating in the fifth round when Spinks suddenly rose to action.

Spinks was in overdrive from the eighth round on even though it was clear he couldn't seriously hurt Holmes with his comparative lack of power. The big bombs still belonged to Holmes even though he was letting the persistent champion back into the fight in a stretch run many ringsiders likened to the tortoise and the hare.

Though tiring in the 11th round, Holmes was still dangerous. Just before the bell, he drove Spinks into the ropes with a left-right to the body.

Both combatants had to know a photo finish was developing, though neither would concede it later. Midway through the 14th round, Spinks connected with a left-right-left, drove home two rights that launched a spray of sweat, and following with another right as the assembly rose to its feet screaming. But Holmes proved the pure warrior who would never lose inside the distance, and he smote Spinks with a vicious right hand. The champion suddenly found himself buckling into a crab-

like position, just managing to retain a precarious balance with his gloves inches off the canvas. Once erect, a glassy-eyed Spinks was able to lurch out of harm's way, an impossible task against Holmes even two years ago.

Larry had the gathering in his pocket as they renewed the "Larree" chant in the final round. Holmes pressed and Spinks quickly grabbed him around the neck. Larry was accurate with a right, and traded same with his unrelenting rival. Holmes again rang Spinks' bell with a right, but as the champion darted to cover, Larry suddenly hesitated. Michael was now backing up with his hands down, but Larry's strained reflexes could not deliver the *coup de grace*. As a reminder of his station, Spinks delivered a chopping right at the bell.

As some observers noted, it is possible Holmes, who had been irascible with the media and officials in the late stages of his training, may have been a victim of what the philosophers call poetic justice. Two weeks before the showdown, Holmes, in a Las Vegas TV interview said he "couldn't take any chances . . . he'd have to knock Spinks out because the judges get drunk before the fights, and take payoffs."

The quotes made national headlines before Holmes' apology was accepted by the Nevada State Athletic Commission. Larry admitted, "I have a big mouth . . . I talk too much." But the seed was planted.

New York's Joe Cortez saw Holmes the winner, 144-141, on the 10-point must system, but Frank Brunette of New Jersey had the same scored the other way for Spinks. Jerry Roth of Las Vegas marked it 144-142 for Spinks. Oddly, Cortez marked the 14th round 10-8 for Holmes although there was no knockdown, and his margin wasn't that overwhelming. The Ring's scorecard went to Holmes, 145-142.

Although no official poll was taken from media and other ringside experts, most felt that Holmes' determined, courageous stand was worthy of a hairline nod, but the closeness of some rounds made it exceptionally difficult to separate the contestants.

Duane Ford, vice-chairman of NSAC, reflected on the verdict.

"Larry feels he can't get a fair shake in Nevada. He partly blamed himself, and talked about his big mouth. But I explained to Larry that the two out-of-state judges (Cortez and Brunette) both arrived the night before the fight, and weren't likely to be influenced by all the talk that had been going on.

"Speaking as a boxing fan, I must say my personal observation is disappointment at both the decision, and at the gap in the scoring. You can't like it when two judges have a six-point turnaround. But I see no impropriety. If Larry wants to ask the Nevada's Attorney General to take a look at it, we'd be happy to cooperate, but I don't think he'll do that."

Giachetti, who broke with Holmes in April, 1981 following a personal dispute with King, but returned before the first Spinks fight, was livid over the decision.

Naturally, Spinks didn't agree with Holmes and Giachetti.

"I was ready, and I think I convinced Holmes the first one wasn't a fluke. I had him retreating, backing up, and I finished very strong. When I saw round card 12, I said, 'Okay, now you have to win it from here very impressively.' Larry Holmes has been a great champion, and he held his own as long as he could."

Win, lose, or draw, Holmes had said earlier that other than an HBO television in the ring, there would be no post-fight interviews. Naturally, nobody was surprised when neither he nor King arrived in the press room to congratulate Spinks and Lewis. However, somewhere between going and returning from the hospital where his hand was treated, Larry had a

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The pause that refreshes. A weary-looking Michael Spinks sucks up air between rounds of his rematch with Holmes.

DLW PHOTOGRAPHY

Michael Spinks (right) winds up with a right hand as Larry Holmes looks for cover.

change of heart.

It was well before midnight when Holmes and company repaired to his suite on the 27th floor of the Las Vegas Hilton to reflect on what was to be his final appearance in a prize ring.

The way 40 or 50 media types, plus four TV crews showed up, it's a good thing the soon-to-be country squire in Pennsylvania's Lehigh Valley doesn't have claustrophobia. He might not have survived. The gathering made sardines look comfortable as they turned the former champion's digs into an instant remake of the stateroom scene in *A Night At The Opera*. Other than a slight facial swelling, Holmes was unmarked.

For the first time in his career, Holmes admitted he had cried after a fight; the impact of total frustration had struck him sitting in a hospital emergency room while awaiting treatment.

"I worked so hard for 11 weeks, sacrificing so much for this fight," said Larry, speaking softly behind tinted glasses. "It was the first time I ever cried, and it was because I didn't get a fair shake. I've made millions of dollars, but how many times do I have to prove myself? These judges have lying eyes, I guess that's why I said they get drunk. I know I won the first five-six rounds easily. Now you mean I didn't win at three-four of the last nine? Who would ever expect Larry Holmes to get a fair shake? The pressure for this fight tore me down, and I reacted . . . right or wrong. I'll stay in boxing to help young fighters. Maybe I'd like to manage some fighters, do their business. I only want fairness. I don't want to see fighters busted."

On permanent retirement, this unpredictable man, who once self-styled himself as a "Boxing Executive," said: "I would like to go out with respect . . . no negative feelings. I only want to help boxing. Yes, I feel sad over the decision. Just before the final vote was announced, I said to Don King, 'Okay, I kicked his ass.' But I also remember two days before the fight, King said I shouldn't talk about the judges if I lose, that I should be nice. All I wanted is to get it if I won. Give it to me if I win. Tonight proved that I've been telling the truth. I had to knock Spinks out.

"I really regretted the Rocky Marciano thing because I hurt a lot of people with something I shouldn't have said. But I really didn't mean it the way it sounded. Black people are always saying, 'You can't carry my jockstrap.' I also said it about Ali, Joe Louis, and Jack Johnson, who were my idols. There was no disrespect intended anywhere."

Ever since his split decision over Tim Witherspoon in May, 1983, the Jekyll/Hyde aspect of Holmes' personality seems to have taken on new proportions. Almost from the beginning, certainly by the time he was champion, the Ali syndrome seemed to be Larry's albatross. Even after he overcame the mammoth shadow of Muhammad with scintillating accomplishments of his own, Holmes didn't realize it.

The one-time seventh grade dropout, who was born one of 12 children in Cuthbet, Georgia, is clearly paranoid that the national media wants to keep him on a bummer. That just isn't true. The deposed champion does it to himself. Holmes isolated himself from press and public alike in the final week of his conditioning. His anxiety and fits of temper reached a new low when he had three members of his staff escort Dick Young, 68-year old New York Post columnist, from the camp premises.

King might have produced his own career first when he was AWOL from the championship weigh-in at the Hilton. There was a rumor that King and Lewis had a severe misunderstanding before Holmes and Spinks got it on. Butch responded to the subject with a sneer, while Dandy Don didn't need an answer since he wasn't around for the post-fight festivities.

When he stepped out of the ring for the last time, Holmes smiled at the Hilton audience and blew a kiss.

Holmes, especially in his twilight years, has been tagged a boor, a bully, a baby mentality in a man's body. Periodically, it was all true, but in the same breath, and in the fairness Larry seeks, here's a man who can be as charming as any human has a right to be, a father and husband any family would bust its buttons to welcome, and a talent who has few peers in his dedication to his craft.

However, when historians ultimately laud the deeds and memory of Larry Holmes, it has to be a two-way analysis . . . in the sunshine and the shadows.

One will assuredly cite the former monarch as a headstrong, my-way-or-the-highway performer who walked off into the dusk gracelessly, never learning how to lose. Yet whenever they round up the legends of achievements . . . Johnson, Dempsey, Louis, Marciano, and Ali . . . for a jamboree into eternity, Larry Holmes' longevity atop the mountain cannot be ignored. Only the incomparable Joe Louis stayed longer.

If it's any solace to a valiant fighter, there's no automation in scoring boxing matches. For better or worse, it's a judgment call. Perhaps Larry Holmes can find some peace of mind in the years ahead if he explains it to his grandchildren that way. Until The Man Upstairs decides to build a better mouse trap, that's the way it's going to be. □

Spinks was in overdrive from the eighth round on. Even though the big bombs still belonged to Holmes, Larry let the persistent champion back in the running in a stretch run many ringsiders likened to the tortoise and the hare.

PHOTO BY WILLIAM HART/HBO

The RING

HEAVYWEIGHTS
(No Weight Limit)
WORLD CHAMPION

MICHAEL SPINKS☆ ..... St. Louis, Mo.
1. **Trevor Berbick**** ..... Canada
2. **Larry Holmes** ..... Easton, Pa.
3. **Tim Witherspoon*** ..... Philadelphia, Pa.
4. **Pinklon Thomas** ..... Canada
5. **Tony Tubbs** ..... Cincinnati, Ohio
6. **James Smith** ..... Magnolia, N.C.
7. **Frank Bruno** ..... England
8. **James (Buster) Douglas** ..... Columbus, Ohio
9. **Mike Weaver** ..... Diamond Bar, Calif.
10. **Carl Williams** ..... New York, N.Y.

11. David Bey 12. Greg Page 13. Marvis Frazier 14. James Broad 15. Gerrie Coetzee 16. Tony Tucker 17. Tyrell Biggs 18. Eddie Gregg 19. Mitchell Green 20. Mike Tyson.

CRUISERWEIGHTS
(Not Over 195 Pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION

CARLOS (SUGAR) DeLEON** ..... Puerto Rico
1. **Dwight Muhammad Qawi*** ..... Camden, N.J.
2. **Bernard Benton** ..... Detroit, Mich.
3. **Alfonzo Ratliff** ..... Chicago, Ill.
4. **Lee Roy Murphy☆** ..... Chicago, Ill.
5. **Eddie Mustafa Muhammad** ..... Brooklyn, N.Y.
6. **Evander Holyfield** ..... Atlanta, Ga.
7. **John Odhiambo** ..... Uganda
8. **Osvaldo Ocasio** ..... Puerto Rico
9. **Henry Tillman** ..... Los Angeles, Calif.
10. **Ricky Parkey** ..... Morristown, Tenn.

11. Bashiru Ali 12. Henry Hearns 13. Anthony Davis 14. Stanley Ross 15. Boone Pultz 16. Dorcey Gaymon 17. Chisanda Mutti 18. Henry Milligan 19. Michael Greer 20. Pierre Coetzer.

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
(Not Over 175 Pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION
TITLE VACANT

1. **Marvin Johnson*** ..... Indianapolis, Ind.
2. **Slobodan Kacar☆** ..... Yugoslavia
3. **Dennis Andries**** ..... England
4. **Eddie Davis** ..... Freeport, N.Y.
5. **J.B. Williamson** ..... Inglewood, Calif.
6. **Willie Edwards** ..... Detroit, Mich.
7. **Prince Mamah Mohammed** ..... Ghana
8. **Jean-Marie Emebe** ..... Cameroon
9. **Bobby Czyz** ..... Wanaque, N.J.
10. **Leslie Stewart** ..... Trinidad

11. Grady Smith 12. Grover Robinson 13. Alex Blanchard 14. Jim MacDonald 15. Everett Martin 16. Charles Williams 17. Kelvin Kelly 18. Freddie Guzman 19. Poncho Carter 20. Clarence Osby.

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
(Not Over 160 Pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION

MARVIN HAGLER* **☆ ..... Brockton, Mass.
1. **Thomas Hearns** ..... Detroit, Mich.
2. **John Mugabi** ..... Uganda
3. **Robbie Sims** ..... Brockton, Mass.
4. **Herol Graham** ..... England
5. **Don Lee** ..... Gary, Ind.
6. **Tony Sibson** ..... England
7. **James Kinchen** ..... San Diego, Calif.
8. **Doug DeWitt** ..... Yonkers, New York
9. **Lindell Holmes** ..... Detroit, Mich.
10. **Michael Olajide** ..... Canada

11. Chong-Pal Park 12. Michael Nunn 13. Charlie Boston 14. John Collins 15. Curtis Parker 16. Iran Barkley 17. Kevin Watts 18. Alex Ramos 19. Dwight Davison 20. Vincent Boulware.

JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHTS
(Not Over 154 Pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION

THOMAS HEARNS** ..... Detroit, Mich.
1. **John Mugabi** ..... Uganda
2. **Mike McCallum*** ..... New York, N.Y.
3. **Carlos Santos** ..... Puerto Rico
4. **Davey Moore** ..... Bronx, N.Y.
5. **Buster Drayton** ..... Philadelphia, Pa.
6. **Matthew Hilton** ..... Canada
7. **Julian Jackson** ..... Virgin Islands
8. **Donald Curry** ..... Ft. Worth, Texas
9. **Mark Medal** ..... Jersey City, N.J.
10. **Milton McCrory** ..... Detroit, Mich.

11. Darnell Knox 12. David Braxton 13. Wilfred Benitez 14. Francisco DeJesus 15. Robert Hines 16. Sean Mannion 17. In-Chul Baek 18. Duane Thomas 19. Troy Darrell 20. Fred Hutchings.

WELTERWEIGHTS
(Not Over 147 Pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION

DONALD CURRY* **☆ ..... Ft. Worth, Texas
1. **Tommy Ayers** ..... Cincinnati, Ohio
2. **Maurice Blocker** ..... Washington, D.C.
3. **Marlon Starling** ..... Hartford, Conn.
4. **Simon Brown** ..... Washington, D.C.
5. **Lloyd Honeyghan** ..... England
6. **Johnny Bumphus** ..... Clementon, N.J.
7. **Colin Jones** ..... Wales
8. **Horace Shufford** ..... Las Vegas, Nev.
9. **Manning Galloway** ..... Columbus, Ohio
10. **Mark Breland** ..... New York, N.Y.

11. John Munduga 12. George Leach 13. Vincent Pettway 14. Sylvester Mittee 15. Shawn O'Sullivan 16. John Montes 17. Carlos Trujillo 18. Jorge Vaca 19. Troy Wortham 20. Tyrone Trice.

JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHTS
(Not Over 140 Pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION
TITLE VACANT

1. **Patrizio Oliva*** ..... Italy
2. **Rene Arredondo**** ..... Mexico
3. **Lonnie Smith** ..... Denver, Colo.
4. **Ronnie Shields** ..... Port Arthur, Texas
5. **Ubaldo Sacco** ..... Argentina
6. **Gary Hinton☆** ..... Philadelphia, Pa.
7. **Gene Hatcher** ..... Fort Worth, Texas
8. **Terry Marsh** ..... England
9. **Rodolfo (Gato) Gonzalez** ..... Mexico
10. **Joe Louis Manley** ..... Atlantic City, N.J.

11. Frankie Warren 12. Reyes Cruz 13. Harold Brazier 14. James (Buddy) McGirt 15. Hugo Hernandez 16. Tomas Molinares 17. Saoul Mamby 18. John Meekins 19. Brett Taylor 20. Ricky Young.

How THE RING International Ratings are formed: Each month, boxing authorities from all six major continents submit ballots ranking the contenders from 1 to 10 in each of the 13 weight classes. The votes are then weighted with scores of from 10 (for first place) to 1 (for tenth place) and totaled to provide the final standings.

- THE RING Ratings are based on listic merit alone. Every active professional boxer from every country on the globe is eligible to be ranked, regardless of boxing politics or geopolitics.
- THE RING is committed to maintaining the integrity of the rating process and to making these Ratings as up-to-date as possible. In the event that *after* ballots are submitted, but *before* the closing date of the magazine, a rated fighter is beaten by or draws with a lower-ranked or unranked fighter, the Editor may, at his discretion, adjust the ballots to reflect that result. Only the two fighters involved in the late bout will be shifted. The positions of the other rated fighters relative to each other will not be changed.

Ratings as of May 6, 1986

*** WBA CHAMPION**
**** WBC CHAMPION**
☆ IBF CHAMPION

LIGHTWEIGHTS
(Not Over 135 Pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION
TITLE VACANT

1. **Livingstone Bramble*** ..... Passaic, N.J.
2. **Hector Camacho**** ..... New York, N.Y.
3. **Jimmy Paul☆** ..... Detroit, Mich.
4. **Jose Luis Ramirez** ..... Mexico
5. **Edwin Rosario** ..... Puerto Rico
6. **Tyrone Crawley** ..... Philadelphia, Pa.
7. **Darryl Tyson** ..... Washington, D.C.
8. **Cornelius Boza-Edwards** ..... Uganda
9. **Terrence Alli** ..... New York, N.Y.
10. **Meldrick Taylor** ..... Philadelphia, Pa.

11. Fred Pendleton 12. Sammy Fuentes 13. Pernell Whitaker 14. Edwin Curet 15. Howard Davis, Jr. 16. Harry Arroyo 17. Roger Mayweather 18. Greg Haugen 19. Bobby Chacon 20. Vinnie Pazienza.

JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHTS
(Not Over 130 Pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION

WILFREDO GOMEZ* ..... Puerto Rico
1. **Julio Cesar Chavez**** ..... Mexico
2. **Rocky Lockridge** ..... Maple Shade, N.J.
3. **Alfredo Layne** ..... Panama
4. **Juan LaPorte** ..... Puerto Rico
5. **Johnny de la Rosa** ..... Detroit, Mich.
6. **Mario Martinez** ..... Mexico
7. **Dwight Pratchett** ..... Gary, Ind.
8. **Barry Michael☆** ..... Australia
9. **Francisco Tomas Cruz** ..... Australia
10. **Lester Ellis** ..... Australia

11. Pat Cowdell 12. Kenny Baysmore 13. Jean-Marc Renard 14. John Sichula 15. Rafael Solis 16. Ralphe Sims 17. Julio Llerena 18. Tae-Jin Moon 19. Edgar Castro 20. Mark Fernandez.

FEATHERWEIGHTS
(Not Over 126 Pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION

BARRY McGUIGAN* ..... Ireland
1. **Azumah Nelson**** ..... Ghana
2. **Eusebio Pedroza** ..... Panama
3. **Marcos Villasana** ..... Mexico
4. **Jackie Beard** ..... Detroit, Mich.
5. **Ki-Yung Chung☆** ..... Korea
6. **Calvin Grove** ..... Pottstown, Pa.
7. **Bernard Taylor** ..... Knoxville, Tenn.
8. **Min-Keun Oh** ..... Korea
9. **Refugio Rojas** ..... Los Angeles, Calif.
10. **Jose Marmolejos** ..... Panama

11. Richard Savage 12. Steve Cruz 13. Joe Ruelas 14. Tyrone Jackson 15. Antonio Rivera 16. Billy White 17. Adrian Arreola 18. Lupe Suarez 19. Sergio Zambrano 20. Fernando Sosa.

JUNIOR FEATHERWEIGHTS
(Not Over 122 Pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION
TITLE VACANT

1. **Victor Callejas*** ..... Puerto Rico
2. **Samart Payakaroon**** ..... Thailand
3. **Juan (Kid) Meza** ..... Los Angeles, Calif.
4. **Loris Stecca** ..... Italy
5. **Jaime Garza** ..... Los Angeles, Calif.
6. **Julian Solis** ..... Puerto Rico
7. **Jorge Ramirez** ..... Los Angeles, Calif.
8. **James Pipps** ..... Vidor, Texas
9. **Harold Petty** ..... Fort Worth, Texas
10. **George Garcia** ..... Westminster, Calif.

11. Mike Ayala 12. Oscar Muniz 13. Seung-Hoon Lee 14. Daniel Blanco 15. Tommy Valoy 16. Ramon Dominguez 17. Bernardo Pinango 18. Louie Espinoza 19. Yun-Kap Choi 20. Leonardo Cruz.

BANTAMWEIGHTS
(Not Over 118 Pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION

GABY CANIZALES* ..... Laredo, Texas
1. **Miguel Lora**** ..... Colombia
2. **Gilberto Roman** ..... Mexico
3. **Kaosai Galaxy** ..... Thailand
4. **Jiro Wantanabe** ..... Japan
5. **Jeff Fenech☆** ..... Australia
6. **Albert Davila** ..... Mexico
7. **Greg Richardson** ..... Youngstown, Ohio
8. **Kelvin Seabrooks** ..... Charlotte, N.C.
9. **Daniel Zaragoza** ..... Mexico
10. **Cesar Polanco** ..... Dominican Rep.

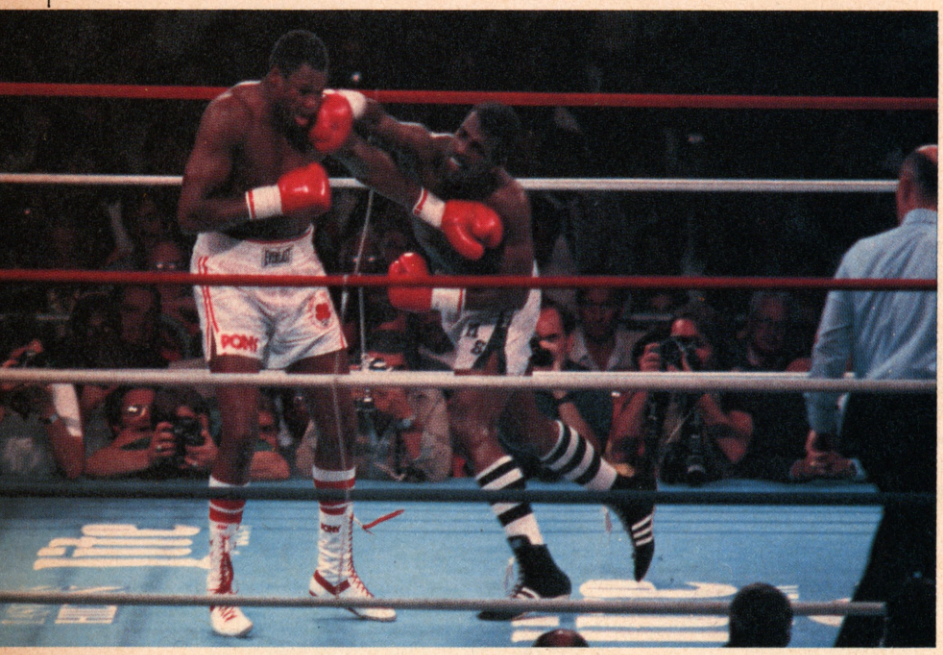
11. Edgar Montserrat 12. Freddie Jackson 13. Cesar Polanco 14. Rafael Orono 15. Jerome Coffee 16. Elly Pical 17. Hurley Snead 18. James Pipps 19. Frankie Duarte 20. Santos Laciar.

FLYWEIGHTS
(Not Over 112 Pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION

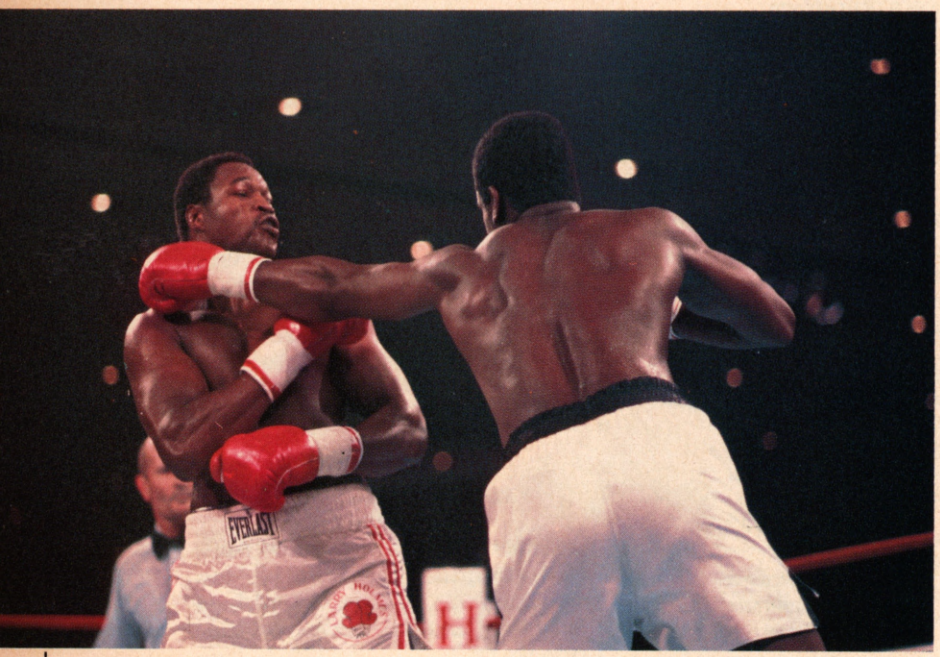
SOT CHITALADA** ..... Thailand
1. **Jung-Koo Chang** ..... Korea
2. **Hilario Zapata*** ..... Panama
3. **Gabriel Bernal** ..... Mexico
4. **Myung-Woo Yuh** ..... Korea
5. **Joey Olivo** ..... Los Angeles, Calif.
6. **Paul Gonzales** ..... Los Angeles, Calif.
7. **Dodie Penalosa** ..... Philippines
8. **Jose DeJesus** ..... Puerto Rico
9. **Isidro Perez** ..... Mexico
10. **Agustin Garcia** ..... Colombia

11. Jorge Cano 12. Alonzo (Strongbow) Gonzalez 13. Virgilio Chifundo 14. Javier Lucas 15. Hermogenes Murillo 16. Reinaldo Becerra 17. Hi-Sup Shin 18. Bi-Wong Chung 19. German Torres 20. Antonio Avelar.

PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA



Midway into the 14th round, Spinks connected with two rights that launched a spray of sweat from Holmes' brow. Michael followed with another right as the assembly rose to its feet screaming



DLW PHOTOGRAPHY

Holmes, showing the vast experience he's gained during 14 years as a professional, parries a Spinks jab. Holmes could never be in better condition at this milestone, and he proved it by rarely taking a backwards step.

PUNCH COUNTER PUNCH

Each month, in an effort to stimulate creative debate, *RING* Magazine will ask a cross section of boxing people a provocative question. We will publish their thoughts, giving you a wide range of views, half-views and even a few half-baked views.

THIS MONTH'S QUESTION:

What is your opinion of the decision in the Michael Spinks-Larry Holmes rematch?

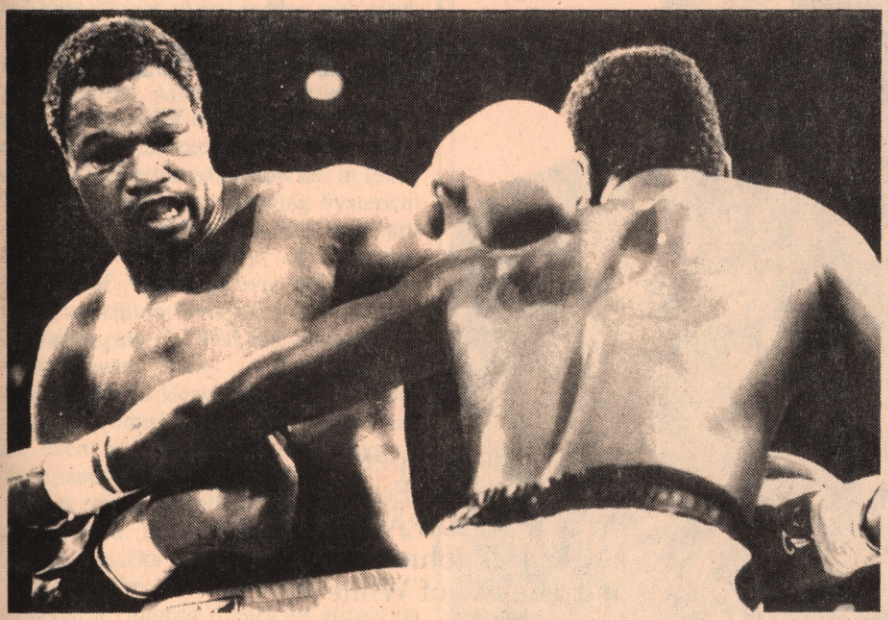


PHOTO BY DLW PHOTOGRAPHY

Although Larry Holmes (left) lost his rematch to Michael Spinks, many observers felt the old champ had done enough to regain the IBF heavyweight crown.

Dick Young *New York* Post *sports columnist):*
I had it 142-142, and they don't come much closer. Most ringsiders had it a point one side or the other, a round here or there. It was that kind of fight, the kind they say could have gone either way. It was the classic youth vs. age battle and youth won. Surprise, surprise.

Dwight Muhammad Qawi *(WBA junior heavyweight champion):*
It was dirty, man. I know they've got something against him because he's got such a big mouth, but I thought Larry won clearly. He dominated the fight.

Richie Giachetti *(Larry Holmes' trainer):*
I can't believe what my eyes have seen in the last two fights. I'll be damned if I'm going to sit back and see this type of judging. How can he (Holmes) win five or six early rounds, hurt the man four or five times, and lose the fight?

Johnny Bos *(Matchmaker):*
Believe it or not, I scored it exactly even. I gave Holmes the 14th round, but only by one point. No way it was a two-point round.

Dr. Ferdie Pacheco *(NBC-TV's Fight Doctor):*
I scored it round by round and Spinks ended up the winner by one round. But overall, I thought Holmes won the fight. But this was not a fight in an alley, it was a boxing match. Each round is a unit unto itself, and Spinks won the majority of those units.

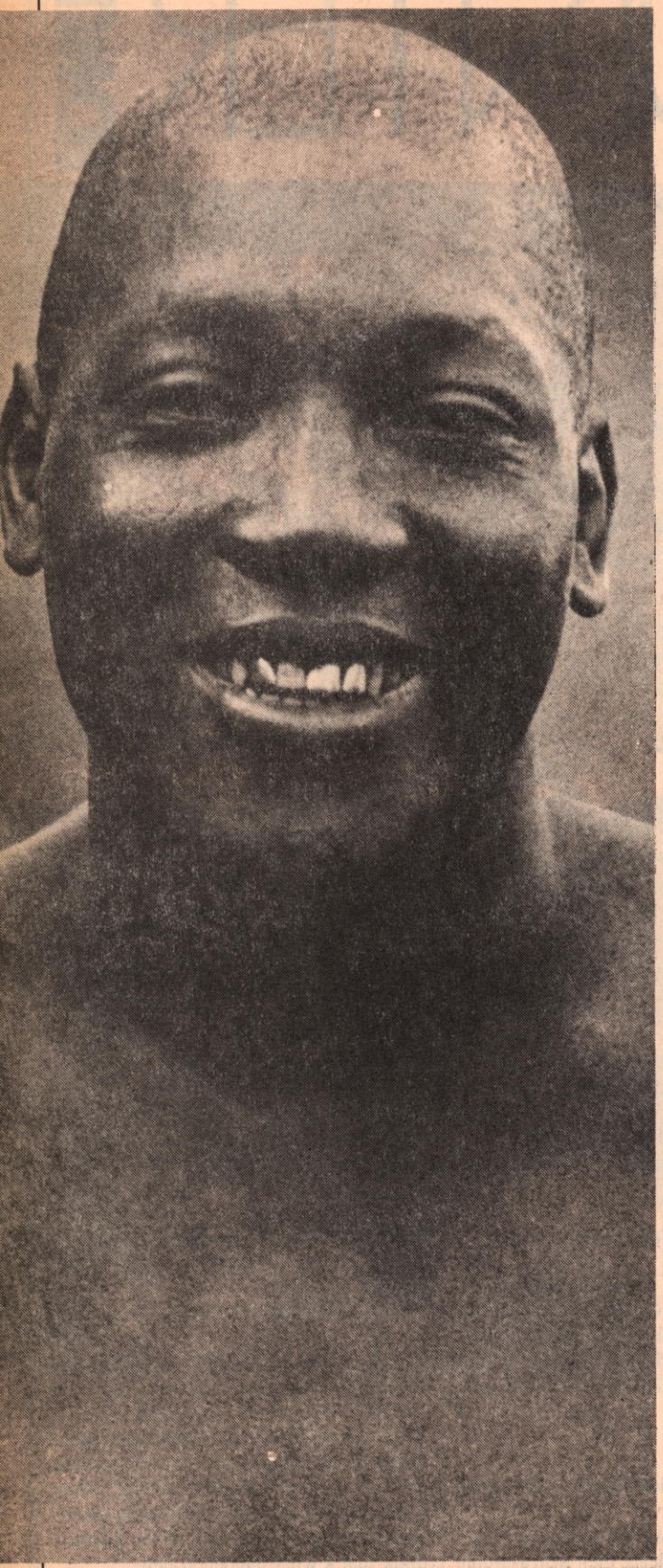
Herbert G. Goldman *(Managing Editor,* The Ring*):*
I carded Holmes two points ahead. Larry built up a big early lead, then won a couple of the latter rounds to pull it out on my scoresheet. I wonder if Holmes' increasingly obnoxious behavior influenced the judges.

Johnny Tocco *(Las Vegas gym proprietor and Holmes' cornerman):*
There is no doubt in my mind that Larry won the fight. He said he was going to go after Spinks early and he did. He had him hurt three or four times. But deep down in his heart he knew he had to knock Spinks out to win. After the fight, Spinks came over to Larry's corner and said, "You're still my champ."

Jerry Izenberg *(Winner of the Nat Fleischer Memorial Award for excellence in boxing journalism):*
In short, in this town (Las Vegas), which is long on con and short on luck, Michael cashed the biggest bet of all. He won a decision and almost got flattened doing it. He did it by the narrowest of margins against a shadow of a fighter chasing the calendar. He beat the odds because the odds against him should never have been that long in the first place.

Steve Farhood *(Sports Channel color commentator):*
I didn't see the fight live, but I watched a tape later, so maybe I was influenced by knowing the outcome before I saw it. Anyway, I had Larry winning by one round, 7-6-2.

Nigel Collins *(Editor-in-Chief,* The Ring*):*
I watched the fight on TV and gave it to Holmes by one point, 144-143. But when a fight is that close, regardless of who wins, it shouldn't be considered a robbery. Many of the rounds were a toss up and difficult to score. Right or wrong, when a title fight is close, the defending champion often gets the benefit of the doubt. I think that's what happened here.



S • P • E • C • I • A • L

To The Ring

THE DAYS OF TAMERLANE

Excerpted with permission of The Free Press from PAPA JACK: Jack Johnson and The Era of White Hopes by Randy Roberts. Copyright © 1983 by The Free Press.

By Randy Roberts

When Jack Johnson stopped Tommy Burns in the 14th round on December 26, 1908, it marked much more than the passing of the heavyweight championship from one fighter to another. On that historic day in Sydney, Australia, Johnson became the first black man to win sport's greatest prize. More than just a prizefight, it was an event of huge sociological implications. The tale of Johnson's ascension to the heavyweight throne has been told many times before, but never with quite the same attention to historic detail as in Randy Roberts insightful biography, *Papa Jack, Jack Johnson And The Era Of White Hopes*. But more than just a documentary, Roberts' *Papa Jack* is a ringing indictment of the racial bigotry that permeated the era.

The famed golden grin of Jack Johnson.

A portrait of Tommy Burns taken around the time of his fight with Johnson.

AFTERWARDS CONCERNED WHITES said it should never have taken place. John L. Sullivan, who by 1908 had quit drinking and become a moral crusader, said, "Shame on the money-mad Champion! Shame on the man who upsets good American precedents because there are Dollars, Dollars, Dollars in it." A dejected sports columnist wrote, "Never before in the history of the prize ring has such a crisis arisen as that which faces the followers of the game tonight." The sadness these men felt could only be expressed in superlatives—greatest tragedy, deepest gloom, saddest day, darkest night. The race war had been fought. Armageddon was over. The Caucasian race had lost. Twenty years after the event, and after a few more such Armageddons, Alva Johnston tried to explain the mood of the day: "The morale of the Caucasian race had been at a low ebb long before the great blow fell in 1908. The Kaiser had been growing hysterical over the Yellow Peril. Africa was still celebrating the victory of Emperor Menelik of Abyssinia over the Italians. Dixie was still in ferment because Booker T. Washington . . . had had a meal at the White House. Then . . . Jack Johnson won the World Heavyweight Championship from Tommy Burns. The Nordics had not been so scared since the days of Tamerlane."

Black ghetto dwellers and sharecroppers rejoiced. In cities from New York to Omaha, blacks smiled with delight. "Today is the zenith of Negro sports," observed a *Colored American Magazine* editor. Other black publications felt such qualifications were too conservative. The *Richmond Planet* reported that "no event in forty years has given more genuine satisfaction to the colored people of this country than has the signal victory of Jack Johnson." Joy and pride spilled over into arrogance, or so some whites believed. The cotton-buying firm of Logan and Bryan predicted that Johnson's victory would encourage other blacks to enter boxing, thereby creating a shortage of field labor. Independent of Logan and Bryan's report, the black writer Jim Nasium counseled black youths to consider seriously a boxing career—where else could they face whites on an equal footing? In that last week of 1908 social change seemed close at hand. The implication of most reports was that Jack Johnson had started a revolution.

How had it all come about? When Burns arrived in Perth in August 1908, the world did not seem in any immediate danger. He was treated like a conquering hero. From Perth to Sydney he was cheered and fêted. Mayors and members of Parliament courted Burns as if he were visiting royalty. When the train made its normal 6 A.M. stop at Abury, men stood shivering in the cold to greet Burns. And at Sydney, at a more civilized hour, more than 8,000 people cheered the champion. Speeches were made and applause modestly received. An Australian politician, Colonel Ryrie, extolled the virtues of boxing, telling the gathering that the sport produced sturdy young men needed for battle, "not those milksops who cry out against it."

At these august occasions Burns was frequently asked about Johnson. Would he fight the black champion? If so, where? When? Burns patiently answered the questions like a saint repeating a litany. He would fight Johnson when the right purse was offered. The place was not important. In fact, Australia was as good as—if not better than—any other place. As Burns told a Melbourne reporter: "There are a lot of newspaper stories that I don't want to fight Johnson. I do want to fight him, but I want to give the white boys a chance first." And since the early English settlers had exterminated the Tasmanians, there were a lot of white boys in Australia.

Listening to Burns was an ambitious promoter. Hugh D. "Huge Deal" McIntosh was an American success story with an Australian setting. As a boy he worked in the Broken Hill mines and as a rural laborer, but early in life he realized that a man could make more money using his brain than his back. His fortune was made as a pie salesman at Australian parks and sporting events, but his career included tours as a racing cyclist, a boxer, a waiter, a newspaper publisher, a member of par-

liament, a theatrical impresario, and other assorted jobs. All these stints equipped him with enough gab and gall to become a first-rate boxing promoter. It was McIntosh who had invited Burns to Australia to defend his title against Aussie boxers. A student of maps and calendars, he knew that when Teddy Roosevelt's Great White Fleet, then cruising about the Pacific, dropped anchor in Australia, a heavyweight championship fight would prove a good draw. With this in mind, he rented a market garden at Rushcutter's Bay, on the outskirts of Sydney, and built an open-air stadium on it. By midsummer he was ready for Burns.

In June he matched Burns against Bill Squires, whom the champion had already knocked out twice, once in the United States and once in France. In defense of Squires, however, it was noted by the press that in his second fight with Burns he had lasted eight rounds, seven longer than the first fight. On his home continent Squires did even better. He was not knocked out until the thirteenth round. Though the fight was not particularly good, the overflowing stadium pleased McIntosh mightily. More than 40,000 people showed up for the fight, including American sailors from the Great White Fleet, but only 15,000 could be seated in the stadium. The 25,000 others milled about outside, listening to the noise made by lucky spectators watching the fight.

Less than two weeks later Burns again defended his title, this time against Bill Lang in Melbourne before 19,000 spectators. Like the stadium at Rushcutter's Bay, South Melbourne Stadium had been hurriedly constructed on McIntosh's orders—it was built in twelve days—and the result had been worth the effort. In the two fights Burns made more than $20,000 and McIntosh grossed about $100,000, half of which was clear profit. In addition, both fights had been filmed, and revenue from this pioneering effort was much greater than anticipated. Burns, McIntosh, and the Australian boxing public were all exceedingly pleased.

In late October Johnson arrived, and the pulse of Australia picked up a beat. The fight had already been arranged. McIntosh guaranteed Burns $30,000. Before such a sum the color line faded. Therefore, when Johnson landed at Perth he was in an accommodating mood. "How does Burns want it? Does he want it fast and willing? I'm his man in that case. Does he want it flat footed? Goodness, if he does, why I'm his man again. Anything to suit; but fast or slow, I'm going to win." After eight years of trying Johnson was about to get his chance to fight for the heavyweight title.

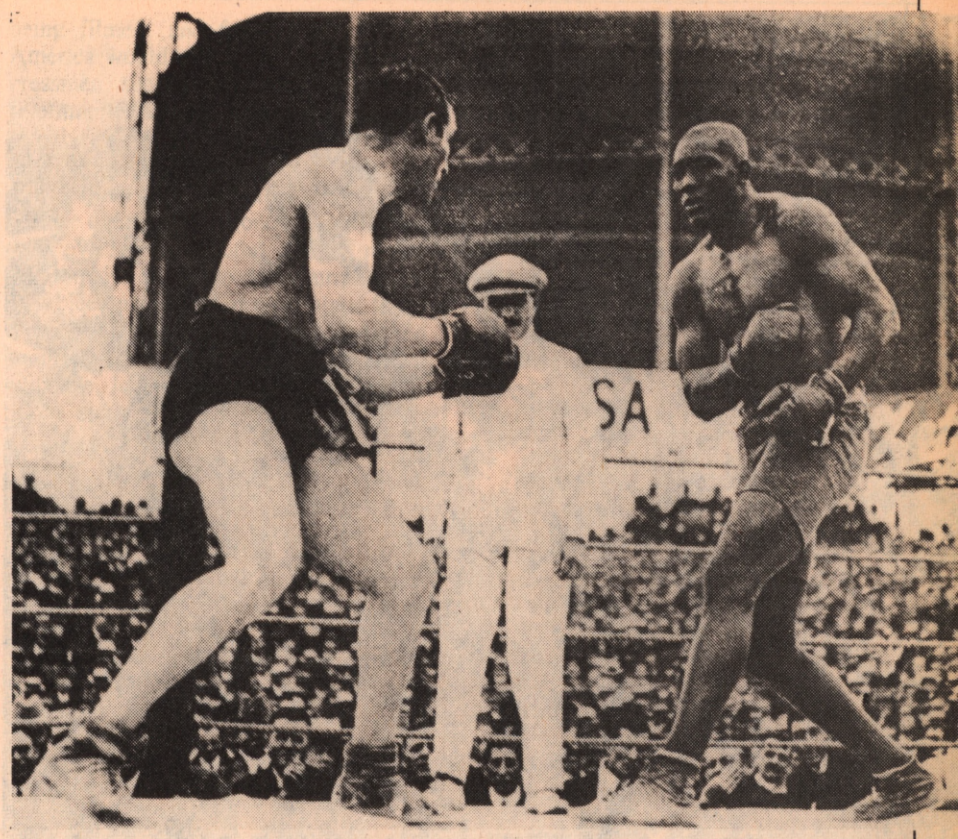
Short of money, Johnson and Fitzpatrick set up their training quarters in the inexpensive Sir Joseph Banks Hotel in Botany, far less plush than the Hydro Majestic Hotel at Medlow Bath, where Burns trained. Yet Johnson, like Burns, trained in earnest. Johnson looked relaxed—he joked, smiled, made speeches, and played the double bass—but the men and women who watched him train failed to notice that he was also working very hard. Each morning he ran; each afternoon he exercised and sparred with Bill Lang, who imitated Burns's style. Johnson knew that Burns—short, inclined toward fatness, addicted to cigars and strong drink—was nonetheless a very good boxer. In Bohum Lynch's opinion, Burns was a "decidedly good boxer" who, though unorthodox, had a loose and easy style. And in the weeks before the fight Johnson showed by his training that he did not take Burns lightly.

Johnson entered the ring first. Despite his dull gray robe his mood was almost carefree. There were a few cheers—though not many—as he slipped under the upper strand of the ropes, but calls of "coon" and "nigger" were more common. He smiled, bowed grandly, and threw kisses in every direction. He liked to strut the stage, and the vicious insults did not outwardly affect him. If anything, his smile became broader as he was more abused.

Nor did he disregard the power of Australian racism. He feared that in the emotionally charged atmosphere of an interracial championship fight he might not be given an even break. His concern was not unfounded. An editorial in Sydney's *Illustrated Sporting and Dramatic News* correctly indicated the racial temper of Australian boxing fans: "Citizens who have never prayed before are supplicating Providence to give the white man a strong right arm with which to belt the coon into oblivion." But of more concern to Johnson than white men's prayers were his suspicions of McIntosh as promoter and self-named referee. Several times the two quarreled in public, and they nearly came to blows when Johnson greeted the promoter with "How do, Mr. McIntosh? How do you drag yourself away from Tahmy?" McIntosh, a big, burly, muscular man, thereafter began carrying a lead pipe wrapped in sheet music. As he told his friend Norman Lindsay, it was in case "that black bastard" ever "tries any funny business."

As the bout drew closer, the racial overtones destroyed the holiday atmosphere. It seemed as if all Australia were edgy. In the name of civilization, Protestant reformers spoke words that fell on deaf ears. The fight, said the Sydney Anglican Synod, with "its inherent brutality and dangerous nature" would surely "corrupt the moral tone of the community." But the community was worried less about being corrupted than about the implication of a Johnson victory. Lindsay, whom McIntosh hired to draw posters to advertise the fight, visually portrayed the great fear. Across Sydney could be seen his poster showing a towering black and a much smaller white. As Richard Broome has suggested, "This must have evoked the deepest feelings Australians held about the symbols of blackness and whiteness and evoked the emotiveness of a big man versus a small man and the populous colored races versus the numerically smaller white race." Clearly, the *Australian Star* editors had this in mind when they printed a cartoon showing the fight being watched by representatives of the white and black races. Underneath was a letter that predicted that "this battle may in the future be looked back upon as the first great battle of an inevitable race war. . . . There is more in this fight to be considered than the mere title of pugilistic champion of the world."

Racial tension was nothing new to Australia. Race had mattered since the colony's founding. Partly it was an English heritage, passed down from the conquerors of Ireland, Scotland, and Wales—an absolute belief in the inferiority of everything and everyone non-English. In Australia, however, it had developed its own unique characteristics. There common English prejudices had been carried to extremes, and when confronted with dark-skinned natives, the Australians did not shrink from the notion of genocide. The most shocking example of racial relations was the case of the small island of Tasmania off the southeast coast of Australia. When the English first settled the island there were perhaps a few thousand Tasmanians. Short but long-legged, these red-brown people were described as uncommonly friendly natives. But the



Champion Tommy Burns (left) and challenger Jack Johnson size up each other during the early going of their historic encounter.

friendliness soon died, as British colonists hunted, raped, enslaved, abducted, or killed the Tasmanians. Slowly the race died off, until in 1876 Truganini, the very last survivor, died. Her passing struck many Australians as sad—but inevitable. As a correspondent for the *Hobart Mercury* wrote, "I regret the death of the last of the Tasmanian aborigines, but I know that it is the result of the *fiat* that the black shall everywhere give place to the white."

For Australia the problem was that other darker races had not given way fast enough in the generation after the death of Truganini. Though Social Darwinists preached the virtues of the light-skinned, by 1909 Australians felt threatened by the "lower" races. Increasingly after 1900 Australians demonstrated anxiety over their Oriental neighbors. Immigration restrictions aimed at keeping the country white were proposed and adopted. So bitter had the struggle become that in 1908, the year of the Johnson-Burns fight, the *Australia Bulletin* changed its banner from "Australia for Australians" to "Australia for the white men."

Johnson and Burns became both an example of and a contribution to the fears of white Australians. Small, white Burns became the symbol of small, white Australia, nobly battling against the odds. Burns's defense was his brain and pluck, his desire to stave off defeat through intelligence and force of will. Johnson became the large, vulgar, corrupt, and sensual enemy. Reports said that he ignored training and instead wenched and drank. He had strength and size but lacked heart—in fact, he *should* win but probably would not. This last report gave rise to the rumor that the fight was fixed. Even the *New York Times* endorsed this view, as did the betting line that made Burns a 7 to 4 favorite.

Cool rains washed Sydney on Christmas night, the eve of the fight. To allow filming, the fight was not scheduled to begin until 11 A.M., but by 6 A.M. an orderly crowd of more than 5,000 was waiting at the gate. The stadium would be filled to capacity; yet interest was much more widespread. Throughout Australia men milled around newspaper offices hoping to hear a word about the progress of the fight. Inside the stadium at Rushcutter's Bay all Christmas cheer had vanished. The mood and tone of the day, from the gray, overcast sky to the uneasy quiet of the spectators, was eulogistic.

Johnson entered the ring first. Despite his dull gray robe his mood was almost carefree. There were a few cheers—though not many—as he slipped under the upper strand of the ropes, but calls of "coon" and "nigger" were more common. He smiled, bowed grandly, and threw kisses in every direction. He liked to strut the stage, and the vicious insults did not outwardly affect him. If anything, his smile became broader as he was more abused. In a country exhilarated by the discovery of gold, Johnson's gold-toothed smile ironically attracted only hate. Satisfied that he was not the crowd's favorite, he retired to his corner, where Sam Fitzpatrick massaged his shoulders and whispered words of assurance into an unlistening ear.

By contrast, when Burns climbed into the ring, the stadium was filled with sound. Burns did not seem to notice. For a time it looked as if he had come into the ring expecting something other than a fight. He was dressed in a worn blue suit, more appropriate for a shoe salesman than the heavyweight champion. Methodically he removed the suit, folded it neatly, and put it in a battered wicker suitcase. Yet even in his short, tight boxing trunks he looked out of place. Jack London, covering the fight for the *New York Herald*, wrote that Burns looked "pale and sallow, as if he had not slept all night, or as if he had just pulled through a bout with fever." Pacing nervously in his corner, he avoided looking across the ring at Johnson.

Burns examined the bandages on Johnson's hands. He did this carefully, looking for hard tape or other unnatural objects. Satisfied, he returned to his corner. Johnson, however, was upset by the tape on Burns's elbows. He asked Burns to remove it. Burns refused. Johnson—suddenly serious—said he would not fight until the tape was removed. Still Burns refused. McIntosh tried to calm the two fighters. He was unsuccessful. The crowd, sensing an unexpected confrontation but not aware of the finer details, sided with Burns and used the moment as a pretext to shout more insults at Johnson, who smiled as if complimented on a new necktie but still refused to alter his protest. Finally, Burns removed the tape. Johnson nodded, satisfied.

McIntosh called the fighters to the center of the ring. He went over the do's and don'ts and the business of what punches would or would not be allowed. Then he announced that in the event that the police stopped the fight, he would render a decision based on who was winning at the time. The unpopular "no decision" verdict would not be given. Both Johnson and Burns had earlier agreed to this proce-

A rare photograph of Johnson (right) shaking hands with John L. Sullivan.

dure. The fighters returned to their corners. A few moments later the bell rang. The color line in championship fights was erased.

Watching films of Johnson boxing is like listening to a 1900 recording of Enrico Caruso played on a 1910 gramophone. When Johnson fought Burns, film was still in its early days, not yet capable of capturing the subtleties of movement. Nuance is lost in the furious and stilted actions of the figures, which move about the screen in a Chaplinesque manner, as if some drunken cutter had arbitrarily removed three of every four frames. When we watch fighters of Johnson's day on film, we wonder how they could have been considered even good. That some of them were champions strains credulity. They look like large children, wrestling and cuffing each other, but not actually fighting like real boxers, not at all like Ali captured in zoom-lensed, slow-motion, technological grace. But the film misleads.

It was no Charlie Chaplin that shuffled out of his corner in round one to meet Tommy Burns. It was a great boxer who at age thirty was in his physical prime. No longer thin, Johnson was well-muscled, with a broad chest and thick arms and legs. His head was shaved in the style of the eighteenth-century bare-knuckle fighters, and his high cheekbones gave his face a rounded appearance. Although he had fought often, his superb defensive skills had kept his face largely unmarked. Like his mother he had a broad, flat nose and full lips, but his eyes were small and oddly Oriental when he smiled. He was famous for his clowning, but this stereotype of a black man obscured the more serious reality. He was often somber, and even when he smiled and acted like a black-faced minstrel, he could be serious. What he thought, he believed, was his own affair. His feelings could not be easily read on his face.

Both boxers began cautiously. Johnson flicked out a few probing jabs, designed more to test distance than to do any physical damage. Although Burns was much smaller than Johnson, he was considered a strong man with a powerful punch. Johnson clinched, tested Burns's strength, then shifted to long-range sparring. He allowed Burns to force the action, content to parry punches openhanded. Burns tried to hit Johnson with long left hooks, which fell short. Johnson feinted a long left of his own, but in the same motion he lowered his right shoulder, pivoted from the waist, stepped forward with his right foot, and delivered a perfect right uppercut. It was Johnson's finest weapon, and some ring authorities claim there never has been a fighter who could throw the punch as well as Johnson. Burns was caught flat-footed, leaning into the punch. His momentum was stopped and he fell backward. His head hit heavily on the floor. He lay still. The referee started to count.

"The fight," Jack London wrote only hours after it ended, "there was no fight. No Armenian massacre could compare with the hopeless slaughter that took place in the Sydney stadium today." From the opening seconds of the first round it was clear who would win. At least it was clear to London. It was a fight between a "colossus and a toy automaton," between a "playful Ethiopian and a small and futile white man," between a "grown man and a naughty child." And through it all, London and the 20,000 other white supporters of Burns watched in horror as their worst fears materialized.

"Hit the coon in his stomach." Burns needed no reminder. After surviving the first-round knockdown, he shifted to a different strategy, one he had thought about before. In the days before the fight, when reporters asked about his battle plan, he had smiled knowingly at his white chroniclers and said he would move in close and hit the black fighter where all black fightes were weak—in the stomach. This theory was hardly novel; it had long been considered axiomatic that black boxers had weak stomachs and hard heads. So thoroughly was the view accepted that black boxers took it for granted that white fighters would attack the body. Peter Jackson once told Fred Dartnell, "They are all after my body. Hit a nigger in the stomach and you'll settle him, they say, but it never seems to occur to them that a white man might just as quickly be beaten by a wallop in the same region." Sam Langford agreed: blacks hated to be hit by a hard punch to the stomach, but so too did whites.

Boxing was not immune to the scientific explanations of the day. Polygenists believed—and Darwinists did not deny—that the black race was an "incipient species." Therefore, whites maintained, physically blacks and whites were very different. Burns, for example, assumed that Johnson not only had a weak stomach but lacked physical endurance. So he believed that the longer the fight lasted the

better were his chances. Behind these stereotypes rested the science of the day. Writing only a year before in the *North American Review*, Charles F. Woodruff claimed that athletes raised in Southern climates lacked endurance: "The excessive light prods the nervous system to do more than it should, and in time such constant stimulation is followed by irritability and finally by exhaustion." Only athletes from the colder Northern latitudes had enough stamina to remain strong during the course of a long boxing match. Therefore, Burns, a Canadian, had reason to remain hopeful. By contrast, Johnson, raised about as far south as one could travel in the United States and only a generation or two removed from Africa, had to win quickly or not at all. At least, this was what Burns and his white supporters hoped.

Burns's strategy was thus founded on the racist belief that scientists, armed with physiological and climatological evidence, had proved that blacks were either inferior to whites, or—as in the case of harder heads—superior because of some greater physiological inferiority; that is to say, blacks had thicker skulls because they had smaller brains. Burns never questioned that his abdominal strength and his endurance were superior to Johnson's. Nor did he doubt that his white skin meant that his desire to win and willingness to accept pain were greater than Johnson's. But above all, he was convinced that as a white he could outthink Johnson, that he could solve the problems of defense and offense more quickly than his black opponent. Burns's faith, in short, rested ultimately on the color of his skin.

Burns forgot, however, that he was facing a boxer liberated from the myths of his day. Johnson's stomach was not weak, and, more important, he knew it was not. As the fight progressed, he exposed the fallacy of Burns's theory. He started to taunt Burns. "Go on, Tommy, hit me here," Johnson said, pointing to his stomach. When Burns responded with a blow to Johnson's midsection, Jack laughed and said to try again. "Is that all the better you can do, Tommy?" Another punch. "Come on, Tommy, you can hit harder than that, can't you?" And so it continued; Johnson physically and verbally was destroying the white man's myths.

Burns fought gamely, but without success. Johnson did not try for a knockout; he was content to allow the fight to last until the later rounds. Partly his decision was based on economics. The bout was being filmed, and few boxing fans in America would pay to watch pictures of pressmen, seconds, and other boxers for five minutes as a build-up for a fight that lasted only half a minute. But more important was Johnson's desire for revenge. He hated Burns and wanted to punish him. And he did. By the second round Burns's right eye was discolored and his mouth was bloody. By the middle rounds Burns was bleeding from a dozen minor facial cuts. Blood ran over his shoulders and stained the canvas ring. Before the white audience, Johnson badly punished Burns. Ad he enjoyed every second of it.

But punishment was not enough. Johnson wanted also to humiliate Burns. He did this verbally. From the very first round Johnson insulted Burns, speaking with an affected English accent, so that "Tommy" became "Tahmy." Mostly what Johnson said was banal: "Poor little Tahmy, who told you you were a fighter?" Or, "Say, little Tahmy, you're not fighting. Can't you? I'll have to show you how." Occasionally, when Burns landed a punch, Johnson complimented him: "Good boy, Tommy; good boy, Tommy." In almost every taunt Johnson referred to Burns in the diminutive. It was always "Tommy Boy" or "little Tommy." And always a derisive smile accompanied the words.

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Sometimes Johnson sought to emasculate Burns verbally. Referring to Burns's wife, Johnson said, "Poor little boy, Jewel won't know you when she gets you back from this fight." Once when Burns landed what looked to be an effective punch, Johnson laughed: "Poor, poor Tommy. Who taught you to hit? Your mother? You a woman?" Crude, often vulgar and mean, Johnson's verbal warfare was nevertheless effective.

Burns responded in kind. Bohum Lynch, who was a great fan of Burns, admitted that the champion's ring histrionics included baleful glaring, foot stomping, and mouth fighting. He often called Johnson a "cur" or a "big dog." At other times, when he was hurt or frustrated, he said, "Come on and fight, nigger. Fight like a white man." Burns's comments, however, were self-defeating. When Johnson insulted Burns, the champion lost control and fought recklessly. But Burns's taunts pleased Johnson, who responded by fighting in an even more controlled way than before. Johnson gained particular strength from Burns's racist statements. It was like playing the Dozens, where accepting abuse with an even smile and concealing one's true emotions were the sign of a sure winner.

When Johnson was not insulting Burns, he was talking to ringsiders. Usually he just joked about how easy the fight was and what he would do with the money he won from betting on the bout. That the ringsiders hated Johnson and screamed racial insults did not seem to bother him. Only rarely did Johnson show his disgust with the white audience. Once as he moved from his corner at the start of a round he spat a mouthful of water toward the press row, but such actions were unusual. More common was the smile—wide, detached, inscrutable. In describing the grin, Jack London came closest to the truth: it was "the fight epitomized." It was the smile of a man who has mastered the rules to a slightly absurd game.

After a few rounds the only question that remained unanswered was not who would win but how much punishment Burns could take. By the middle rounds that too was evident—he could survive great amounts of punishment. His eyes were bruised and discolored, his mouth hung open, his jaw was swollen and looked broken, and his body was splotched with his own blood. In the corner between rounds his seconds sponged his face with champagne, which was popularly believed to help revive hurt fighters. It did not help Burns. Yet at the bell he always arose to face more punishment and insults. For the white spectators, Burns's fortitude was itself inspiring. As Bohum Lynch wrote, "To take a beating any time, even from your best friend, is hard work. But to take a beating from a man you abhor, belonging to a race you despise, to know that he is hurting you and humiliating you with the closest attention to detail, and the coldest deliberation . . . this requires pluck."

A panoramic view of the crowded stadium at Sydney, Australia on the afternoon of the Jack Johnson-Tommy Burns fight, December 26, 1908.

By the thirteenth round, everyone but Burns and Johnson was surfeited with the carnage. Spectators, left with nothing and nobody to cheer, now yelled for the fight to be stopped. After the thirteenth round police entered the ring. They talked with McIntosh, then with Burns. The white champion refused to concede. He insisted that he could win. But in the fourteenth Burns was again severely punished. A hard right cross knocked him to the canvas. He arose at the count of eight but was wobbly. Again policemen climbed into the ring, only this time there was no talking. The fight was stopped, although Burns—dazed, covered with blood, but still game—screamed at the police to give him another chance.

Everywhere was a stunned silence as the spectators accepted that the inevitable was now the actual. It had happened. A black man now wore the crown that had once belonged to Sullivan, Corbett, and Jeffries. As far as Australia was concerned, an "archetypal darkness" had replaced sweetness and light; the barbarian had defeated the civilized man. As the *Daily Telegraph* observed in doggerel:

And yet for all we know and feel,
For Christ and Shakespeare, knowledge, love,
We watch a white man bleeding reel,
We cheer a black with bloodied glove.

The imagery in which the fight was reported clearly reflects the white Australian attitude toward Johnson. He was portrayed as a destructive beast. *Fairplay*, the liquor trades weekly, called Johnson "a huge primordial ape," and the *Bulletin*'s cartoons likened him to a shaven-headed reptile. He was the discontented black and yellow masses that haunted the Australian mind. Journalist Randolph Bedford, perhaps the most unabashedly racist reporter at the fight, depicted it in ominous terms: "Yet the white beauty faced the black unloveliness, forcing the fight, bearing the punishment as if it were none . . . weight and reach were ebbing against intrepidity, intelligence and lightness. . . . His courage still shone in his eyes; his face was disfigured and swollen and bloodied. He was still beauty by contrast—beautiful but to be beaten; clean sunlight fighting darkness and losing."

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In America the fight was not viewed in quite so maudlin a manner. Certainly the white American press was not pleased by the result, but it generally tried to dismiss it in a light-hearted mood. Perhaps, reporters reasoned, all was not lost. "Br'er Johnson is an American anyway," commented a reporter for the *Omaha Sunday Bee*. Then, too, boxing had declined so much in recent years that some experts wondered if the fight meant anything at all. Though John L. Sullivan criticized Burns for fighting Johnson, he added that "present day bouts cannot truly be styled prize fights, but only boxing matches." A fine distinction, but Sullivan believed it was enough to invalidate Johnson's claim as heavyweight champion. And certainly even if Johnson were the champion, reporters all agreed that he was far below the likes of Sullivan, Corbett, or Jeffries.

Though the mood had not yet reached a crisis stage, the fight's portent was still most unsettling to American whites. This was especially true about the manner in which blacks celebrated Johnson's victory. It was reported that the Manassas Club, a Chicago organization of wealthy blacks who had white wives, hired white waiters to serve the food at their banquet. And one of their members said that "Johnson's victory demonstrates the physical superiority of the black over the Caucasian. The basis of mental superiority in most men is physical superiority. If the negro can raise his mental standard to his physical eminence, some day he will be a leader among men." In other parts of the country blacks were reported as acting rude to whites and being swelled by false pride.

Johnson's actions in Australia did little to calm Caucasian fears. Turning against the sportsmanlike tradition of praising one's opponent, Johnson openly said that Burns was a worthless boxer: "He is the easiest man I ever met. I could have put him away quicker, but I wanted to punish him. I had my revenge." Nor was Johnson discreet about the company with whom he was seen in public. Hattie McClay, his companion who had remained in the background during the weeks before the fight, was now prominently on display. Dressed in silk and furs, she seemed as prized a possession of Johnson's as his gold-capped teeth.

Johnson now seemed more apt to emphasize racial issues that irritated whites. Interviewed during the days after the fight, he told reporters that he had the greatest admiration for the aboriginal Australians. Commenting on their weapons, he said,

"Your central Australian natives must have been men of genius to have turned out such artistic and ideal weapons." Nor, he hinted, was he any less a genius. He understood human nature: because he defeated Burns he could expect to be hated by all whites. But, he added, he could find solace in his favorite books—*Paradise Lost, Pilgrim's Progress* and *Titus Andronicus*. His comments achieved their purpose; everywhere white Australians snorted in disgust. But his choice of books certainly did not reflect his own attitude. Unlike Milton's Adam, Johnson did not practice the standard Christian virtues.

Burns left Australia soon after the fight. A richer man by some $30,000, he nevertheless was bitter and filled with hatred. Johnson, however, decided to stay for a while in Australia. His side of the purse, a mere $5,000, was hardly enough to make the venture profitable. He hoped instead to capitalize on his fame by touring Australia as a vaudeville performer. It was common for any famous boxer to make such tours. In 1908 he had toured in America and Canada with the Reilly and Woods Big Show and had enjoyed the experience. He loved the limelight, and, unlike other boxers, put on a good show. He demonstrated a few boxing moves, sang several songs, danced, and played the bass fiddle. During his Australian tour he actually made more money than he had in his fight with Burns. Not until mid-February was he ready to go home.

He had changed. The Johnson who left Australia in February was not the same man who had arrived in October. Inwardly, perhaps, he was much the same. But outwardly he was different. He was more open about his beliefs and his pleasures, less likely to follow the advice of white promoters and managers. Undoubtedly he believed the title of world champion set him apart from others of his race. And in this he was right. He would never be viewed as just another black boxer. But he was wrong in his assumption that the crown carried with it some sort of immunity against the dictates of whites and traditions of white society. Now more than ever Johnson was expected to conform. And now more than ever Johnson felt he did not have to. The collision course was set. □

Randy Roberts teaches history at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas. He is also the author of *Jack Dempsey: The Manassa Mauler.*

The magnificently proportioned Jack Johnson about to take a dip during training in Sydney, Australia—1908.

RINGS AROUND THE WORLD

Edited By Herbert G. Goldman

NORTH AMERICA

UNITED STATES

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

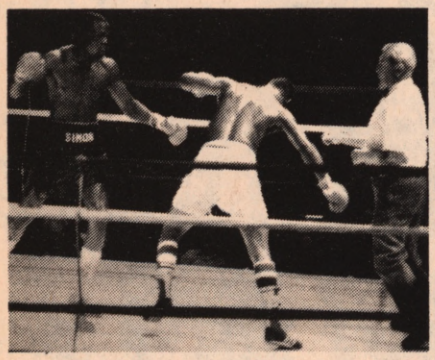


PHOTO BY N. ALICIA BYERS

Simon Brown (left) hammers Kevin Howard for a seventh round TKO in Washington, D.C.

▶**WASHINGTON—Convention Center**—Simon Brown, 152, Washington, D.C., stopped Kevin Howard, 152¼, Philadelphia, Pa., at 1:19 of the seventh in a scheduled 10-rounder.

This was Brown's first bout since losing to Marlon Starling in a bid for the USBA welterweight title.

Brown, rated fifth in the world by *The Ring*, controlled the action from the beginning. Toward the end of the third round, he landed four unanswered bombs that drove Howard into the ropes. the ropes.

Brown seemed to lose steam at the end of the sixth round and the hustling Howard made him pay for inactivity. But in the seventh, Howard was staggered by a right hand. He stumbled into the ropes and referee Harry Cecchini halted the bout.

Plans are now being made for Brown to face former Canadian amateur star Shawn O'Sullivan in the early summer.

Boone Pultz, 190, Greenblet, Md., his undefeated record and USBA cruiserweight title newly restored, knocked out comebacking Alvio Manson, 184, Indianapolis, Ind., in 2:52 of the seventhin a 10-round non-title match.

Pultz looked much better than when he lost his title to Stanley Ross on December 7. Ross was stripped of the title and the bout was declared no contest when the USBA found traces of marijuana in his post-fight urine sample.

Pultz is now 13-0 with one no-contest.

In another 10, Maurice Blocker, 147, Washington, D.C., scored a unanimous decision win over Leland Hart, 150, Washington, D.C.

Hart is a small, dangerous defensive specialist who took top-rated Tommy Ayers the distance in this building just three weeks before.

Blocker, the NABF welterweight champ, remains undefeated at 22-0.

Former heavyweight champ Joe Frazier brought his son Hector "Smokin' Joe Jr." Frazier, 140, Philadelphia, into town for a showcase and ended up throwing in the towel at 1:29 of the fourth round in a scheduled eight.

Frazier, who started fast, was on the ropes and taking a beating from James Sudberry, 145, Cleveland, Ohio, when the end came.

Larry Pringle, 135, Washington, D.C., and Donnie Parker, also 135, Baltimore, Md., drew over four rounds. *The Ring* had Pringle ahead 39-37 at the end.

Tyrone McKelvy, 128, Washington, D.C., decisioned Floyd Simmons, 124½, Baltimore, four.

Jeff Nance, 126½, Philadelphia, another Frazier fighter, made his pro debut by outscoring William Lucas, 129½, Baltimore, also a deb., four. Nance scored a knockdown in the first.

Star Sport (Charles Rosenbleet, Bruce McHale).
Referees—Harry Cecchini, Frank Kelly, Sylvester Stevens.
Judges—Patricia Montgomery, Norvel Lee, Julian Whitestone.
Timekeeper—Paul McGarvey.
Knockdown Timer—Andre Davis.
Ringside Physicians—Lawrence Manning, Willie Thompson.
Ring Announcer—Gregg Mosso.
(03-21-86)

JOHN SCHEINMAN

FLORIDA

▶**MIAMI—S.W. Eighth Street**—A free five-bout card in this downtown Miami street setting attracted more than a million spectators—most of them passersby.

Wayne Gordon, 151½, Miami, won a unanimous decision over Harold Williams, 155, Miami, six. Eddie Eckert, referee.

Carlos Albuerne, 134, Miami, TKO'd Carlos Fernandez, 139, Miami, at 2:30 of the second in a scheduled four. Harry Brennan, referee.

Billy Cunningham, 148½, Miami, and Eduardo Lugo, 147, Miami, drew, four. Eddie Eckert, referee.

David Rivello, 132½, Miami, TKO'd Miguel Cardentey, 128, Miami, at 1:10 of the second in their scheduled four. Harry Brennan, referee.

Terry Cunningham, 175, Miami, kayoed Larry Guthrie, 173, Miami, in 1:50 of the second in another scheduled four. Eddie Eckert, referee.

Promoter—Walter Alvarez.
(03-09-86)

▶**MIAMI—Cocoanut Grove Convention Center**—Jose Ribalta, 218, the Cuban heavyweight now fighting out of Miami, knocked out Jeff Freeney, 218, Buffalo, New York, with one solid right to the chin in 1:03 of the first round in a scheduled 10. Bill Connors, referee. Ribalta is now 20-3-1.

Mario Miranda, 131½, Mexico, TKO'd Larry Highsmith, 133¾, Miami, at 3:00 of the third round in a scheduled eight. Referee Bernie Soto stopped the bout as the bell sounded.

Lorenzo Guzman, 148½, Miami, won a split decision over Billy Cunningham, 146, Miami, eight. Harry Brennan, referee.

Cleo Garcia, 133¾, Nicaragua, and Carlos Albuerne, 128½, Miami, drew, six. Best fight of the night. Harry Brennan, referee.

Tony Ortiz, 136, Miami, won a split decision over Emilio Diaz, 138, Miami, six. Bernie Soto, referee.

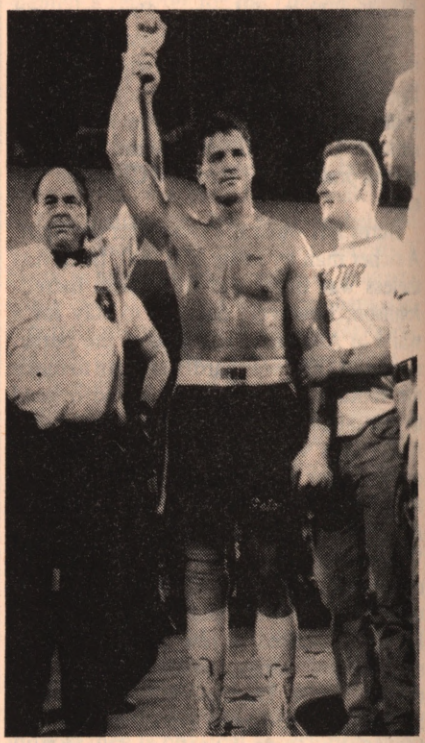
Gary Peters, 193, Miami, TKO'd Lenarce Forbes, 204, Miami, at 2:05 of the first round in their scheduled six. Bernie Soto, referee.

Luis (Kid) Monzote, 112, Miami, won a unanimous decision over Rafael Fortez, 116, Miami, six. Bill Connors, referee.

Duran Boxing Corp.
Attendance—400 (estimated).
(04-04-86)

LOUIS ZIPKIN

ILLINOIS



AP LASERPHOTO

Craig Bodzianowski continued his comeback with a thrilling third round kayo over Rick Enis in Chicago.

▶**CHICAGO—Americana Congress Hotel**—This card was billed with a double main event shown on the USA cable network. Marlon starling, 147½, Hartford, Conn., the heir to the throne of the welterweight division if Donald Curry keeps his word and moves up in class, punished tough journeymen Ralph Twinning, 145, Muskegon, Mich., for six rounds until Twinning was unable to answer the bell for the seventh in this scheduled 10. Starling, now 37-3, had been idle for four months due to personal and managerial problems, but clearly proved that he truly could be the best natural welterweight in the world. The 27-year-old Starling hopes to have another tune up fight and then get a title match. Stanley Berg, referee.

With the crowd clearly made up of Craig Bodzianowski faithful, the cruiserweight from Tinley Park, Ill., continued his amazing storybook comeback since a motorcycle accident cost him his right foot. The "Gator" as he's referred to, clearly showed defensive deficiencies against Rick Enis, 190, Richmond, Ind. Enis had the Gator ready to go in both the second and third rounds until Bodzianowski threw a perfect left hook to the chin that sent Enis sprawling. Another left hook set up Bodzianowski's straight right that kayoed Enis 1:36 of the third in a scheduled eight. Bodzianowski, also 190, is now 15-0 and wants a crack at a local product, Young Joe Louis. Stanley Berg, referee.

Terry Anderson, 210, Tampa, Fla., extended his unbeaten streak to 11 with a K.O. over Keith Allen, 215, Louisville, Ky., at 0:58 of the second round in a scheduled six. Anderson, 26, out of the Alessi camp, now hopes to get a shot at a top 20 fighter. Al Preslinger, referee.

Mike Schofield, 163, Chicago Ridge, TKO's Willie Patterson, also 163, Chicago, at 1:28 of the third round in a scheduled four. Stanley Berg, referee.

J.C. Camell, 148, Chicago, won a four-round unanimous decision over Tim Payton, also 148, Louisville, Ky. Stanley Berg, referee.

Francisco Arreola, 127, Bloomington, Ill., TKO'd John Boyd, 126, Benton Harbor, Mich., at 1:37 of the fifth round in a scheduled six. Preslinger, referee.

Promoter—Cedric Kushner.
Matchmaker—Jack Cowen.
Judge—Mike Glienna, Jerry Hults, Harold Marovitz, Al Tremari.
Timekeeper—Kenny Kinsch.
Ringside Physicians—Dr. Treister, Dr. Bynum.
Ring Announcer—Chet Coppick.

Attendance—1,005.
(04-06-86)

▶**CHICAGO—DiVinci Manor**—In the main event of the evening, popular local favorite Jeff McWhorter, 140, dropped an eight-round unanimous decision to Karim Ali Muhammad, 143, Chicago. Muhammad, the Illinois junior welterweight champion, 13-6, had all he could handle from a game McWhorter, 8-2-1. Muhammad floored McWhorter in the second and eighth rounds with a flurry of combinations, which ultimately won him the bout. The judges scored 38-35, 38-33, and 39-35. Stanley Berg, referee.

Ron Amundsen, 155, Chicago, now 6-0, won an unpopular split decision over Alex Porrata, 155, Chicago. Both men kept up the pressure, though Amundsen seemed to land the cleaner blows in this six-rounder. Bob Carillo, referee.

Jim Finn, 205, Chicago, upped his record to 14-0 with a four-round unanimous decision over Greg McPherson, 197, Chicago. Finn looks to step up in class. Bob Carillo, referee.

Mike Schofield, 168, Chicago Ridge, TKO'd Jim Wisniewski, 170, Pardeeville, Wisc., at 0:45 of round one. Wisniewski, very green, was permanently retired in Illinois. Schofield is now 3-0. Stanley Berg, referee.

Sammy Matos, 153, Chicago, kayoed Roy Hundley, 149, Milwaukee, Wisc., in 1:49 of the second round in a scheduled four. Stanley Berg, referee.

Walter Cowen, 136, Milwaukee, Wisc., TKO'd Alfredo Aranda, 137, Mexico City, in his pro debut, at 1:27 of round two in a scheduled four. Bob Carillo, referee.

Promoter—Cliff Lanas.
Matchmaker—Jack Cowen.
Judges—Mike Gleinna, Collins Brown, Sonny Duncan.
Timekeeper—Kenny Kinsch.
Ringside Physicians—Dr. Glenn Bynum, Tony, Chris Scipioni.
Ring Announcer—Ben Bentley.
Attendance—240.
(04-12-86)

GEORGE HOWE

MARYLAND

▶**PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY—Sheraton New Carrollton**—Former amateur star Eugene (Sonny) Speed, 127¾, Palmer Park, Md., scored his most impressive victory by stopping Keith Jenkins, 125, Philadelphia, in the first round of a scheduled six-round bout.

Jenkins, who attempted to move forward in a crouch, was pounded brutally by Speed's left hooks to the body, and retired in his corner between the first and second. Speed is now 3-0. Jenkins is 3-6.

Victor Davis, 138, Washington, D.C., raised his record to 6-2 with a technical knockout over Jerry West, 142½, Washington, D.C., at 1:17 of the third round in another scheduled six.

Leroy Brooks, 124½, Washington, D.C., improved to 7-4 with a handy six-round unanimous decision over James Woodhouse, 131, Philadelphia.

Kevin Martin confirmed an amateur win by stopping Troy Jackson, 154, Silver Springs, Md., at 1:26 of the second round in a scheduled four. Martin, 150, Baltimore, landed a powerful left hook right on Jackson's nose to put him down for the count. Jackson drops to 2-1.

Henry Hawkins, 137½, Landover, Md., scored a four-round split decision over Chris Bowen, 142, Washington, D.C. Bowen seemed to take the first two frames with incredibly hard punches. Hawkins, in superb physical condition, rallied well in the second half. *The Ring* scored the bout 39-37, Bowen.

Kelvin Beatty, 192, Washington, D.C., took a four-round majority decision over debuting Reggie Currington, 198, Capital Heights, Md. Currington scored a knockdown in the first and had a point taken away in the third for holding behind the head.

Quality Promotions (Alphonzo Brooks).
Matchmaker—J.D. Brown.
Referees and judges—Larry Barrett, Terry Moore, Ray Klingmeyer, Frank Kelly, Harry Cecchini.
Timekeeper—Izzy Bach.
Knockdown Timer—Earl Clemons.
Ringside Physicians—Ira Brecher, Brad Bennett, Reed Pyeritz.
Ring Announcer—Tony Baldoni.
(04-07-86)

JOHN SCHEINMAN

▶**BALTIMORE—Fifth Regiment Armory**—The local stock exchange took a plunge when Baltimore's best, Vincent Pettway, 146, suffered his first defeat, after starting off at 17-0, when he was TKO'd at 1:16 of the fourth in a scheduled 10 by one-day sub George Leach, 145, Washington, D.C.

Originally, the pride of Baltimore was to have boxed a previous victim, Tom Baker. The switch-hitting Leach was rushed in and upset the festivities (which included awards and testimonials to Pettway's trainer Mack Lewis, just before the main event) by playing the role of ungracious guest.

Vincent pretty much had his own way in rounds one and two—sweeping all three cards. Leach was hesitant as Pettway landed some flashy pot shots on his bemused opponent. Upon starting round three, Leach took his corners' advice and went for broke.

Dropped by a straight left (out of the southpaw stance) in mid-ring, Pettway seemed more confused then hurt, as if he mentally fell apart from this, his supposedly first-ever knockdown. He survived the round by running, but in the fourth, Leach continued his chase. He dropped Pettway again and later pinned him in a neutral corner with a barrage of lefts and rights, whereupon referee Frank Kelly decided enough was enough.

No one expected this, least of all Pettway, who afterwards still felt that Leach was not in his class, but vowed to be back in the gym pronto.

Lou Barber, 145, Baltimore, out of boxing for six years, took an active and engaging four-round split decision over Edward Carberry, 144, Oxon Hill, Md. Each earned their pay and then some. Larry Barrett, referee.

D.J. Turner, 140, Baltimore, TKO'd Darryl Richardson, also 140, Virginia Beach, Va., at 0:43 of the fifth in a scheduled eight. The stocky Turner pushed the spindly Richardson all over the ring, dropping him in the fourth via a straight right and in the fifth via a right uppercut, upon which the Richardson corner asked referee Ray Klingmeyer to stop it.

Al Scott, 200, Baltimore, TKO'd Jerry Jones, 204, Hillcrest Heights, Md., at 1:46 of round three in a scheduled six. The tall switch hitting Jones spent much of the fight moving away from the body beautiful Scott. He was finally caught in a neutral corner and was taking sick when ref Harry Cecchini halted matters.

Jonathern Kiirisa, 178, Richmond, Va., won by TKO at the 0:50 mark of round two in a scheduled four against Odell Jones, also 178, Baltimore. Jones received a badly cut right eye and referee Klingmeyer stopped the bout and awarded the win to the southpaw Kiirisa. Not much had taken place until that point.

In a mauling but energetic affair, George Burton, 145½, Baltimore, took a split decision in six over William Hill, 150, Washington, D.C. Terry Moore, referee. Neither fighter sensed how to avoid getting tied up, and, as a result, constant rushes ended up in constant tie-ups.

Judges—Cecchini, Klingmeyer, Tom Kelly.
Timekeeper—Izzy Bach.
Promoter—Baltimore's Best Boxing (Mike Jensen).
Matchmakers—Sherman Davis, Billy Brown.
Ring Announcer—Tony Balbonie.
Attendance—881 (781 paid)
(04-15-86)

JACK OBERMAYER

MICHIGAN

▶**MT. CLEMENS—Thomas Crystal Gardens**—ABC Promotions put on the second card in their series at the exclusive Thomas Crystal Gardens and gave the fans some good club action again. Promoter Johnny Ace Smith (former fighter Johnny Ace) again topped the card with his two young fighters, Vince (Blue Thunder) Hopper and Ernest (Ice Tea) Houser and also featured two fighting offsprings in Floyd Patterson's adopted son, Tracey Harris Patterson, and trainer Don Thibeadoux's son, Andre Thibeadoux, who made his pro debut. Don is well known as an excellent sculptor in addition to his fine corner work.

Vince Hopper, 178, Westland, Mich., showed some toughness in winning a hard fought eight-round decision over Mike Richardson, 176, Charleston, N.C./Dayton, Ohio. Hopper, now 8-0, had the upper hand of each heavy hitting round, winning by scores of 80-72, 80-72, and 79-73 in a good fight.

Wasting little time, Tracey Harris Patterson, 128, New Paltz, N.Y., took the fight to "Psycho" Mike Parraz, 131, Detroit, before Parraz could even get into fight. The referee stopped the bout with Parraz pinned against the ropes and unable to defend himself at 2:11 of the opening round.

The most exciting fight on the card had the big boys battling in a real war between heavyweights Lorenzo Cannady, 216, Detroit, and D.J. Benedict, 220, Grand Rapids. After two action packed and fairly even rounds, Canady started to take command, bloodying the former Toughman's nose in the fourth, cutting him over the right eye in the fifth, and dropping him in the sixth for a standing eight-count. Referee Bob Fisher stopped the contest at 2:18 of the sixth round, making it a TKO win for Canady, who recently upset Alex Williamson in Montreal. Canady is now 5-1-1; Benedict is 2-1.

In a battle of two debuting young warriors, Andre Thibeadoux, 149, Roseville, Mich., did his daddy proud with a good, solid knockout victory over Dennis Kent, 152, Detroit, when he delivered two crushing right hands at 1:15 of the second.

Ernie (Ice Tea) Houser, 150, Detroit, had a very easy time over an outclassed Kenny Miller, 148, Frankfort, Ky. Houser, 5-1, scored a three-round TKO as the out-of-shape last minute fill-in Miller could not answer the bell.

Journeyman Danny Blake, 182, Milwaukee, smiled all the way through his bout with the constantly retreating Ken Wright, 172, Battle Creek, as he knew that he was winning this one. He was right, scoring a six-round majority decision over Wright, now 6-3, with scores of 60-54, 56-55, and 57-57. *The Ring* scored it 60-54.

Pro boxing wasn't as good to PKA middleweight karate champion Terry Gay, 174, Grand Rapids, as karate. Rodney Graig, 180, Detroit, improved his record to 2-3 with a four-round decision (40-35, 40-36, 39-37) over the debuting Gay.

A well fought lightweight contest had Huey Leggitt, 136, Detroit, winning a very close six-round split decision over Johnny Glover, Detroit. The judges had it 58-56 and 58-56 for Leggitt, 3-1, and 58-57 for Glover, 4-2-2.

A very good club card. It was good to see announcer Jim Ingram in action again.

ABC Promotions.
Matchmaker—Lindy Lindell.
Judges—Frank Garza, Bernie Humphrey, Jim Homanian.
Referees—Bob Fisher, Tom Briscoe.
Chief Inspector—Ted Kuzemka (Kay).
Ring Announcer—Jim Ingram.
(03-26-86)

▶**DETROIT—Cobo Arena**—After two good cards in a row, it was nightmare time for matchmaker Tom Vacca, as one match after another fell out at the last minute. The card came off after much scrambling—not as good as one would like, but with one good explosive battle between Phillip Morefield and Billy Lee. Headlining the program was NABF super welterweight champion David Braxton, 156, Detroit. His last minute substitution, David McCluskey, 157¾, Birmingham, Ala., was very over-matched against the 35-2 Braxton. After a feeling out opening round, Braxton got down to business and put McCluskey down twice in the second before the bout was stopped at 2:30 of that canto. Nothing more than a loosening up for top 10 rated Braxton.

The Morefield Phenomenon continued as a large group of fans cheered the "Michigan Assassin," Phillip Morefield, 159¾, Warren, Mich., to victory in his most impressive outing yet. The contest went only three rounds, but those first two were demonstrations on how to throw bombs with both hands by both fighters. It was the strength and power of Morefield that eventually got to Billy Lee, 161¾, Detroit. A crushing left hook leveled Lee, dropping him in a neutral corner. A dazed Lee could only sit up and lie against the ropes to take the 10-count at 0:52 of the third canto. Morefield is now 10-0; Lee slips to 8-4.

Tim Williams, 161, San Diego, Calif., easily handled Cincinnati veteran Larry McCall, 162¼, in coasting to an eight-round unanimous decision with scores of 80-72, 80-72, and 79-73. McCall was also a last minute fill-in. Williams improves to 11-1.

With a single shot right hand, Mark Stevens, 157¾, Detroit, put Myron Glasper, 159½, Detroit, down and out at 1:43 of the opening stanza of their scheduled six-rounder. The win made Stevens 6-2; Glasper drops to 0-4.

Richard Burden easily controlled his fight with John Wright, 134, Detroit, and took a four-round decision, 40-36, 40-36, and 39-37. Burden, 139½, Detroit, has a pro log of 3-0-1. Wright, the same fighter who lost a 10-round decision to Remo Di Carlo in Toronto, dropped to 3-7.

The opening bout on the card had Manuel Marillo Jr., 173½, San Diego, score a one-round TKO when referee Bob Watson stopped the contest at 0:35 against Charlie Boughan, 174¾, Lima, Ohio. It was obviously a mismatch; Boughman showed no boxing skills at all. He was making his pro debut.

Ringside Productions.
Matchmaker—Tom Vacca.
Judges—Bob Watson, Sam Williams.
Chief Inspector—James Cullen.
Ring Announcer—Wally Jackson.
Attendance—2234.
(03-27-86)

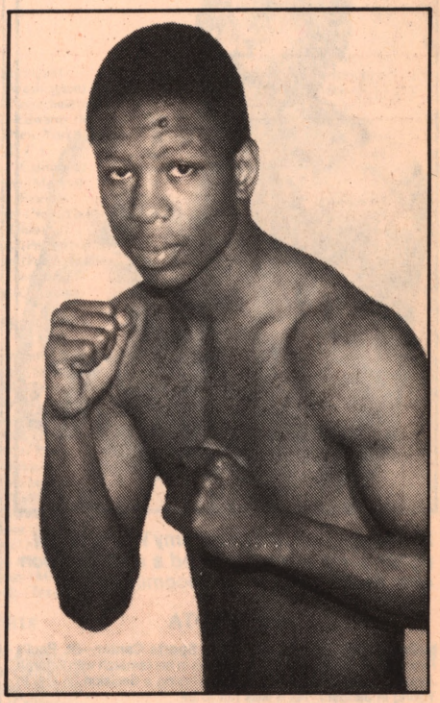


PHOTO BY PETE GOLDFIELD

Tyrone Trice raised his record to 23-1 with a second round TKO over Ray Jones in Detroit.

▶**DETROIT—Cobo Arena**—Power punching was the name of the game this month at Cobo Hall. After a weak card last month, Ringside Productions rebounded with a very exciting six-bout card that provided plenty of solid boxing for the fans.

Tyrone (The Butterfly) Trice, 148, Detroit, headlined the card and won his contest in sterling fashion against "Sweet Ray" Jones, 147¼, Texas. Using a brutally stiff jab, Trice set up his right hand and dropped Jones twice in the second for a TKO victory at 2:59 of the second canto. Trice looked very good and let his talent do the talking for him as he rang up his 23rd win against only one loss. Jones dropped to 16-4-1.

It took only one powerful left hook to destroy Orlando Paulding,

161¾, Birmingham, Ala., when Williams (Caveman) Lee, 163¾, detroit, announced to boxing that he was back. The crushing blow which sent Paulding's head echoing off the canvas and put him down for the 10-count ended the contest suddenly only 13 seconds into the fight. Paulding appeared to be okay, but was sent to the hospital afterwards to be completely checked out.

In a tremendously exciting contest, "The Michigan Assassin," Phillip Morefield, 159, Warren, Mich., pounded out a hard fought six-round decision over a tough Derrick Earvin, 159¼, Birmingham, Mich. The scores of 60-54, 60-54, and 59-55 in favor of Morefield are in no way indicative of the exciting "bombs away" action fight the contest actually was.

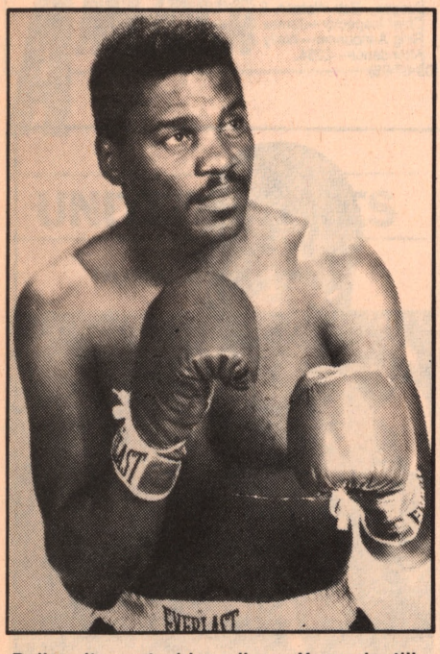
A fight that had the crowd voicing disagreement with the outcome saw Kronk junior welterweight Courtney Hooper, 141½, Detroit, score an eight-round decision over Joey Solar, 142½, Brooklyn, N.Y. The southpaw fought a good, rugged fight despite the judges who scored 78-75, 77-75, and 77-75 in favor of Hooper, whose record rose to 8-0. It was a good close fight that could have gone either way, and both fought in similar styles throwing plenty of punches. *The Ring* scored it 77-76, Solar, but could accept a close verdict for either of the two.

Tony (Dr. Detroit) Montgomery, 151¾, Detroit, kept his undefeated streak intact when he unleashed a wicked right hand that put Glen Ross, 149½, New York, down and out for the count at 1:53 of the second stanza. Montgomery is now 13-0-1.

In the opening bout, Anthony (Baby) Jones, 140½, Detroit, ran his pro log to 6-0 when referee Dale Grable stopped his bout with Carl Heinz, 140½, Bay City, Mich., at 1:57 of the second round and awarded him a TKO victory. The game Heinz was making his pro debut and, although struggling, was outclassed and on the receiving end.

Ringside Productions, Inc.
Matchmaker—Tom Vacca.
Chief Inspector—James Cullen.
Referees—Dale Grable, Tom Briscoe.
Judges—Bob Every, Bernie Humphrey, Herman McKalpain.
Ring Announcer—Wally Jackson.
(04-24-86)

DAVE HARTOON



Believe it or not, old pro Jimmy Young is still fighting. He recently scored a split decision over Rocky Sekorski in Bloomington.

MINNESOTA

▶**BLOOMINGTON—Metropolitan Sports Center**—St. Paul's Rick (Rocky) Sekorski had high hopes in his rematch with veteran Jimmy Young of Philadelphia of reversing a decision he lost to Young in January, but it was not to be.

At the end of 10 hectic rounds, Young was awarded a split decision over his younger opponent. As in their first fight, it was the left jab and hook of the vastly more experienced 37-year-old Young that made the difference. Sekorski was as aggressive as always and did score with punches to the head and body of Young, but they lacked the power that an aggressive heavyweight has to have.

When Rocky would wade in with his hands down, Young would stick that jab into his chest, putting Sekorski off balance so that his punches would miss or graze Jimmy. The left jab was also snapping back the head of Rocky throughout the 10 rounds, and Young's counterpunching off the ropes also kept an edge for him.

Sekorski's constant attack and continuous punching kept the fight on an even basis, however, and neither of the light punching heavyweights ever had the other in serious trouble. There were no knockdowns in the contest. Sekorski's best round was the sixth, when he landed his best punches of the fight. Young weighed 216, Sekorski 214.

Judge Chuck Holes scored the fight 97-95 and judge George Reiter had it 97-94, both for Young. Judge Denny Nelson was more in line with a 97-97 draw vote. Young is now 32-16-2, Sekorski 16-5-0.

Saverino Garcia, 124, St. Paul, won the Minnesota State featherweight championship when he outpointed Mario Rivera, 126, Minneapolis, over eight rounds. Garcia is 6-0-1, Rivera 2-1-0.

David McCall, 156½, St. Paul (6-1-0), stopped Jack Pudwell, 155, Mandan, N.D. (0-1-0), in three.

Rock McCaleb, 196, Rochester (10-1-3), decisioned Willie Mayberry, 183, Duluth (5-1-1), in six.

Jerry Cody, 155, LaCrosse (1-1-0), stopped Mark Pudwell, also 155, Mandan, N.D. (1-2-0), in two.

Promoter—Don Shama.
Attendance—2,504.
(03-12-86)

GEORGE D. BLAIR

NEVADA

▶**LAS VEGAS—Sahara**—Freddie Pendleton wasn't exactly overjoyed with his latest performance at the Sahara Hotel-Casino, but he'll take it.

The 23-year-old Philadelphian, now boxing out of Miami, was able to back up the well-regarded Shelton LeBlanc often enough to break the latter's punching rhythm, and it was worth a unanimous 10-round decision in Top Rank's ESPN main event in the Space Center.

It was clear rather early that Pendleton wasn't going to put away the slick-boxing LeBlanc out of Carencro, La., like he did Roger Mayweather (KO6) March 12 at this same venue.

However, Pendleton did catch the off-balance LeBlanc with a right to the body which sent the Southern lightweight champion skidding to the canvas in the opening minute of the fifth round. It was a flash knockdown, but referee Richard Steele did toll off a standing eight-count.

Pendleton, 135, lost the point back in the next round when he caught LeBlanc, 134¼, low with a left-right, and Steele penalized him for the infraction.

By the eighth round, it was clear LeBlanc needed a knockout to save the decision, but Pendleton kept the pressure on, and got the best of the in-fighting exchanges. LeBlanc made a desperation bid in the 10th, landing three left-right combinations. It was good enough to win the round, but not the fight.

Judges Bill Graham and Dalby Shirley both had it 97-91 for Pendleton, while Dave Moretti saw it 96-93 for the winner. *The Ring*'s tab was 95-93, Pendleton.

"LeBlanc is very awkward, but he's a very good fighter," Pendleton said. "I was a little lazy all through the fight. I didn't kick it out more, and it takes more than I did to win a title. I'll be working on that in the future.

"LeBlanc's an elusive fighter with a good defense, but I think it was in the eighth round when I hurt him with a good right hand."

Pendleton lifted his deceptive record to 16-13 with seven kayoes, while LeBlanc, who fell to 19-3 with 11 knockouts, had no excuses.

"It was one of my worst fights. I couldn't get off often enough. He slowed me down in the third and seventh rounds with good body shots, but I feel I hurt him with right hooks in the first and 10th rounds. Pendleton was very difficult to fight inside."

Felix Gonzales of San Francisco and Dwayne Prim of Fort Worth, Texas, advanced in ESPN Western Regional lightweight tourney action, both winning inside the distance. Both bouts were scheduled for eight rounds.

Gonzales, 134½, though cut over the left eye, had too many guns for Vernon (Yogi) Buchanan, also 134½, St. Louis, scoring a TKO at 1:42 of the third round. Gonzales' record is now 13-3 with 12 kayoes. Buchanan dips to 13-4-1 with 10 knockouts.

Prim, 135, had Zack Padilla, also 135, Pomona, Calif., under fire early, finally uncorking a 35-punch series that prompted referee Jim Molinell to abbreviate the bout at 3:06 of the second.

Mike Hunter, 199, Greenville, S.C., was a study in clowning as he upset previously undefeated Avery Rawls, 204, Los Angeles. Hunter had no serious power, but he hit the befuddled Rawls often enough to take a unanimous eight-round decision. Hunter is now 4-0. Rawls is 8-1 with six kayoes.

Danny Lindstrom, 174¾, Las Vegas, TKO'd Aaron Windom, 172, Los Angeles, at 2:18 of the first round, improving his ledger to 4-1-1. Windom dipped to 1-1 in the slated six.

Elfigo Graham, 150, Tucson, Ariz., and Manuel Mamushica, 145½, Las Vegas, took turns knocking each other down to finish a six-round welterweight match in a draw. Graham's record is now 4-4-1. Mamushica is 4-3-4.
(04-11-86)

▶**LAS VEGAS—Hilton Hotel**—Matthew Hilton has "Golden Boy" good looks, and he can bang with either hand, but the super welterweight pride of Montreal should be giving some serious consideration to defense if he wants to stay that way.

The 20-year-old Hilton, 159, continued on a roll of 21 straight, plus 17 kayoes, when he erased Tulsa's Bruce Jackson, 155, but it wasn't quite as easy as it sounded in a scheduled 10-round on the Michael Spinks-Larry Holmes IBF title undercard at the Hilton Center.

Hilton used a punishing body attack to put the dead-game Jackson in a position where he could get off the stool to answer the bell for the sixth round. However, the Oklahoma import did not go easily, catching Matthew with a combination of jabs and hooks in the early rounds.

The outcome became evident in the third round when Hilton drove Jackson across the ring with a booming left hook which deposited the latter near his own corner.

Picking up the temo in the fourth and fifth rounds, Hilton ignored Jackson's counters to the body and continued to rock the wobbly Jackson with hooks to the liver.

Hilton is currently the World Boxing Council's number four super welterweight challenger, but he doesn't figure to improve on that rating after beating an opponent whose record fell to 15-11-1 with seven kayoes.

"I don't think it was a tough fight," said Hilton. "I was sluggish, and made it tougher than it should have been. I'll be a lot sharper when I fight in New York in late May. But you gotta give Jackson credit. He was one tough dude."

Davey Hilton, Sr., a former Canadian welterweight champion who manages a boxing family of five sons, wasn't particularly delighted by Matthew's performance.

"Matthew only gets up for tough opponents. He didn't know who Bruce Jackson was. He took him too lightly in my opinion," said the senior Hilton. "He was 163 pounds at the weigh-in, and had to sweat off four pounds to make the limit. Matthew was drinking too much liquid—four of five glasses of water."

Jackson willingly explained the punches that did him in.

"It was a double hook. The one to the body wasn't too much, but the one to the head was solid. It was a good punch."

Grady (Trilla) Smith, 176, Jacksonville, Fla., survived two early knockdown to turn on a furious finish for a controversial 10-round split decision over James MacDonald, 175, Nashville, Tennessee.

Managed and trained by Jody Ballard, a former heavyweight contender, Smith, a 6'1" former Golden Gloves champion, improved his ledger to 12-1-1 with two kayoes. MacDonald, a former Marine, was Spinks' last world light heavyweight challenge before the then 175-pound champion upset Holmes last September 21 at the Riviera. Spinks TKO'd MacDonald in eight rounds.

The hard-punching Smith handed MacDonald only his second loss against 17 victories, 15 by knockout. The loss will be costly to MacDonald's world rating.

James Douglas, 232¼, Columbus, Ohio, had too much artillery for willing but outclassed David Jaco, 205½, Toledo, Ohio, winning a unanimous decision in an eight-round bout which gave up two rounds to assist HBO's TV schedule.

Douglas, remembered here for an upset over Randy (Tex) Cobb in 1984, had defeated former WBA heavyweight champion Greg Page in Atlanta in his las outing in January. The Buckeye boxer's steady attack had Jaco on the verge of going down several times in the early rounds, and it finally happened in the fifth when Douglas caught his rival with a flurry along the ropes.

The victory improved Douglas' ledger to 22-3-1 with 13 kayoes. Jaco dropped to 19-7 with 18 knockouts.

Julian Jackson, 153¼, the Continental Americas super welterweight champion from the Virgin Islands, was given another overmatched opponent, and he quickly erased Francisco Panco Del Toro, 154, at 2:05 of the second round in a tenner. Jackson's roll continued to 28-0 with 26 kayoes.

Glen Thomas, 148, Louisville, Ky., arrived at 5-0 when he chopped down Charles Williams, 155, Chicago, at 1:25 of the fifth round in a slated six. Thomas used a hard body attack to hurt Williams until referee Mills Lane halted the action.

Chicago's Dale Jackson, 158, Chicago, recovered from a first round knockdown and battled back to an eight-round draw with Israel Cole, 155, Las Vegas. Jackson rocked Cole in the seventh round with a right hand, and dropped him in the eighth with a short uppercut.
(04-19-86)

JACK WELSH

NEW JERSEY

▶**ATLANTIC CITY—Sands Hotel Casino**—A rarity, a poor card from the Peltz-Moore combine, resulted from Choo Choo Brown's pullout against Vernon (Yogi) Buchanan. The substitute, Nick Parker, came in wearing lace trunks, with a battle plan equally as flimsy. After four rounds of one-sided drubbing, Parker, 136, Erie, was dropped when Buchanan, 135, St. Louis, stepped in with a crisp, short right. Bouncing up, Parker walked catty-corner across the ring, before realizing he was hurt worse than he'd thought. He then fell to his knees, receiving referee Rudy Battle's count at 3:01 of the fifth round in a scheduled 10. Familiar with underdog roles himself, a pent-up Buchanan suddenly uncoiled, cavorting around the ring, dangerously haranguing the commission, and then shouting to the crowd, "Thank God Almighty for Jesus!" The fans would've settled for "Choo Choo."

The co-feature, also scheduled for 10, proved a positive embarrassment, as Vincent Pettway, 146, Baltimore, TKO'd Papo Figueroa, also 146, Hartford, at 2:47 of the first. Despite a competent record, the tank-like Figueroa was unable to get through Pettway's rapier jab, never even managing a punch before his right eye was impaled. The doctor entered the ring, and referee Ted Pick ended the torment.

Hughie (Buttons) Kearney, 148, Philadelphia, edged an unpopular but deserved unanimous win over George (Tricky) Leach, 145¾, Hillcrest Heights, Md., eight. Two guys named "Buttons" and "Tricky" don't promise an action fight, but this was a pleasant surprise. After being thoroughly outboxed for two rounds, Leach went for blood, and turned it into a free-for-all. A bloodied Kearney, unused to trench warfare, bailed out desperately to survive the middle rounds, but regained command as George seemed to tire from his own efforts. Rudy Battle, referee.

Curtis Summit, 150¾, Joliet, Illinois, via Fayetteville, N.C., left no doubt in reversing a previous draw, as he battered hapless Marlon Palmer, 151¾, Pottstown, Pa., into a TKO at 1:06 of the fifth round in their scheduled eight. Ted Pick, referee.

Brian McGinley, 148, Philadelphia, dropped overmatched Chris Bajor, 145, Philadelphia, for a TKO at 1:17 of the first round in a scheduled six. Ted Pick, referee.

Kenneth Kidd, 136, Jackson, Tenn., via Fayetteville, hammered Larry Hawkins, 136, Camden, all over the ring, scoring a standing eight and TKO at 1:52 of the first round in a scheduled four. Rudy Battle, referee.

Sands/Tiger Eye Ltd.
Matchmaker—Harold Moore.
Attendance—400 (estimated).
Judges—Richard F. Murry, Al DeVito, Charlie Spina.
Timekeeper—Art Spell.

Ring Announcer—Ed Derian.
(03-22-86)

▶**NORTH BERGEN—Schuetzen Park**—Former Madison Square Garden matchmaker Harold Weston initiated his own series of promotions with an artistic success, but financial liability. Though the bouts were quite good, they lacked local drawing power, and fared poorly at the gate.

Angel Cruz, 140, Bethlehem, Pa., split decisioned Eduardo Valdez, 141, New York, in a sloppy brawl, eight. Score one for "ring generalship." The crafty Valdez wanted to slip and counter, but Angel refused to fight his fight, bullying Eduardo instead. Nevertheless, judge John Poturaj liked the loser's style, scoring 5-2-1, Valdez. Ted Larve voted 5-2-1, Cruz; and Charlie Spina carded 5-3 for Angel. Randy Neumann, referee.

In the co-feature, Jose Fuentes, 150, Jersey City, held off Radames Garcia, 154, Brooklyn, for a unanimous win, eight. Garcia started slowly, then staged a stretch drive that had Fuentes ready to go in the seventh before Jose rebounded to nail down the win in an action-packed eighth. Paul Venti, referee.

In a facsimile of WWIII, Joey Caraballo, 130, Bronx, won a unanimous verdict over Richie (The Ninja) Otero, 131, Brooklyn, six. The hyper-aggressive "Ninja" made the returning Caraballo fight for his life, but Joey proved equal to the task. Paul Venti, referee.

Wendell Everett,, 175, Freehold, N.J., manhandled Dennis Burgess, 178, New York, via a unanimous decision in a dullish four. Randy Neumann, referee.

Miguel Alvarez, 121, New York, won "Fighter of the Night" honors by clobbering Fuzzy Williams, 126, Hempstead, Long Island, into a TKO at 1:59 of the fourth and final round. Williams was down in the first, and took a standing eight in the fourth. Randy Neumann, referee.

Jorge Sanchez, 130, Jersey City, outscrambled Arthur Dewar, 135, Uniondale, Long Island, for a unanimous win, four. Dewar became one of the few non-divers to be knocked down by a punch to the arm when a right propelled him off the ropes and down in the second. Paul Venti, referee.

Harold Weston Productons.
Attendance—275. Gross—$3,000 (estimated).
Timekeeper—Justin Bucanico.
Ring Announcer—Frank Shain.
(03-28-86)

Philadelphia's Buster Drayton tuned-up for his title date with Davey Moore by scoring a fifth-round TKO over Sammy Leonard in Atlantic City.

▶**ATLANTIC CITY—Caesars Hotel Casino**—Prior to their June meeting for the vacant IBF junior middleweight title, Davey Moore and Buster Drayton were showcased against separate poor, sad victims. Neither pawn realized he was "supposed" to lose, however, so the fights were explosive while they lasted.

Moore, 160, Bronx, kayoed Victor Claudio, 160¼, San Juan, P.R., in 1:42 of the second in a scheduled 10. The only mystery here is what caused manager Victor Machado to throw Claudio, a promising kid, but with only six-round experience, in with the likes of Moore. Victor came out bombing, and nailed Davey with some good shots, but this only caused Moore to erupt. In the second, Davey made a savvy move, dipping and feinting his left to divert Claudio's attention, then coming over the top with a meteor of a right that must have made Victor feel like Chicken Little. After crashing to the canvas, he regained his feet, only to be dropped again under a barrage that left him inert for some time. Joe Cortez refereed.

In the co-feature, also scheduled for 10, Drayton, 156¼, Philadelphia, TKO'd Sammy Leonard, 159¼, Tulsa, who was unable to come out for the fifth. Buster "The Demon" might better be nicknamed "The Devil," as in "-May-Care." Seemingly unable to get through a fight without controversy, the unorthodox Drayton was fighting harder than usual in response to stubborn resistance from Leonard. In the third, Buster had Sammy in trouble in his

NORTH AMERICAN RATINGS
BY THE NORTH AMERICAN BOXING FEDERATION

(As of April 16, 1986)

HEAVYWEIGHTS
Championship
Vacant
1. Michael Spinks (Missouri)
2. Larry Holmes (Pennsylvania)
3. Pinklon Thomas (Pennsylvania)
4. Mike Tyson (New York)
5. Tony Tucker (Michigan)
6. Tony Tubbs (Ohio)
7. Mitchell Green (New York)
8. Carl Williams (New York)
9. Marvis Frazier (Pennslyvania)
10. Tyrell Biggs (Pennsylvania)
11. James Broad (New Jersey)
12. James Smith (North Carolina)
13. Michael Dokes (Ohio)
14. Eddie Gregg (New York)
15. James Douglas (Ohio)

CRUISERWEIGHTS
Champion
Bashiru Ali (California)
1. Lee Roy Murphy (Illinois)
2. Alfonzo Ratliff (Illinois)
3. Bernard Benton (Michigan)
4. Michael Greer (Tennessee)
5. Evander Holyfield (Georgia)
6. Dorcy Gaymon (Florida)
7. Anthony Witherspoon (Pa.)
8. Ricky Parkey (New Jersey)
9. Henry Tillman (California)
10. Henry Milligan (Delaware)
11. Tyrone Booze (Connecticut)
12. Curtis Isaac (Michigan)
13. Spencer Chavis (Michigan)
14. Anthony Davis (California)
15. Bert Cooper (Pennsylvania)

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
Champion
Willie Edwards (Michigan)
1. Bobby Czyz (New Jersey)
2. Mustafa Muhammad (New Jersey)
3. Junior Edmond (New Jersey)
4. Don LaLonde (Manitoba)
5. Charles Williams (Michigan)
6. David Sears (New York)
7. Prince Mamah Mohammed (Calif.)
8. Eddie Davis (New York)
9. Kelvin Kelly (Pennsylvania)
10. Poncho Carter (Georgia)
11. Diamond Jim MacDonald (Texas)
12. Jeff Lampkin (Ohio)
13. James Salerno (Florida)
14. Everett Martin (Texas)
15. Vinnie Curto (Florida)

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Champion
Thomas Hearns (Michigan)
1. James Kinchen (California)
2. Don Lee (Indiana)
3. Michael Olajide (British Columbia)
4. Lindell Holmes (Michigan)
5. Iran Barkley (New York)
6. Doug DeWitt (New York)
7. Kevin Watts (New Jersey)
8. Curtis Parker (Pennsylvania)
9. Michael Nunn (California)
10. Frank Tate (Michigan)
11. Carl Jones (California)
12. Luis Rivera (New Jersey)
13. Mike Tinley (New Jersey)
14. Mustafa Hamsho (New Jersey)
15. Charles Boston (New Jersey)

SUPER WELTERWEIGHTS
Champion
David Braxton (Michigan)
1. Buster Drayton (Pennsylvania)
2. Matthew Hilton (Quebec)
3. Milton McCrory (Michigan)
4. Darnell Knox (Michigan)
5. Troy Darrell (New York)
6. Mark Medal (New York)
7. Fred Hutchings (California)
8. Davey Moore (New York)
9. Robert Hines (Pennsylvania)
10. Sean Mannion (Massachusetts)
11. Willie Harris (Pennsylvania)
12. Kenny Snow (Texas)
13. Darrell Chambers (Michigan)
14. Lupe Aquino (California)
15. Kevin Moley (New York)

WELTERWEIGHTS
Champion
Maurice Blocker (New Jersey)
1. Tommy Ayers (Ohio)
2. Horace Shufford (Nevada)
3. Tyrone Trice (Michigan)
4. Simon Brown (D.C.)
5. Johnny Bumphus (New Jersey)
6. Mark Breland (New York)
7. Allen Braswell (New York)
8. Manning Galloway (Ohio)
9. Rigoberto Lopez (California)
10. Shawn O'Sullivan (Ontario)
11. David Hilton (Quebec)
12. Juan Alonzo Villa (Mexico)
13. Troy Wortham (Connecticut)
14. Darryl Anthony (Missouri)
15. Diomedes Colome (California)

SUPER LIGHTWEIGHTS
Champion
Ronnie Shields (Texas)
1. James (Buddy) McGirt (New York)
2. Rene Arredondo (Mexico)
3. Rodolfo (Gato) Gonzalez (Mexico)
4. Joe Louis Manley (New Jersey)
5. Gene Hatcher (Texas)
6. Frankie Warren (Texas)
7. Harold Brazier (Indiana)
8. Darryl Fuller (Tennessee)
9. Othal Dixon (Texas)
10. Howard Davis, Jr. (New York)
11. Angel Cruz (Pennsylvania)
12. Ricky Young (New York)
13. Vinnie Pazienza (Rhode Island)
14. Mitchell Julien (California)
15. Andy Nance (California)

LIGHTWEIGHTS
Championship
Vacant
1. Jimmy Paul (Michigan)
2. Greg Haugen (Washington)
3. Edwin Curet (Massachusetts)
4. Cornelius Boza-Edwards (Nevada)
5. Terrence Alli (New York)
6. Darryl Tyson (D.C.)
7. Cubanito Perez (California)
8. Sergio Zambrano (Mexico)
9. Fred Pendleton (Florida)
10. Pernell Whitaker (New York)
11. Harry Arroyo (Ohio)
12. Tyrone Crawley (Pennsylvania)
13. Meldrick Taylor (Pennsylvania)
14. Chris Calvin (Tennessee)
15. Felix Gonzalez (California)

SUPER FEATHERWEIGHTS
Champion
Dwight Pratchett (Indiana)
1. Rocky Lockridge (New Jersey)
2. Anthony English (Pennsylvania)
3. Raphe Sims (Texas)
4. Mark Fernandez (Colorado)
5. Johnny de la Rosa (Florida)
6. Keith Stevenson (Florida)
7. Wilmer Ruiz (Texas)
8. Jackie Beard (Michigan)
9. Oscar Bejines (California)
10. Ralph Aviles (Hawaii)
11. Ramon Marchena (Mexico)
12. Donald Caples (Texas)
13. Vinnie Costello (New York)
14. Vernon Buchanan (Missouri)
15. Derwin Richards (Texas)

FEATHERWEIGHTS
Champion
Baby Joe Ruelas (California)
1. Bernard Taylor (Tennessee)
2. Marcos Villasana (Mexico)
3. Refugio Rojas (California)
4. Steve Cruz (Texas)
5. Richard Savage (Louisiana)
6. Lenny Valdez (Mexico)
7. Tyrone Jackson (New York)
8. Roger Arevalo (Mexico)
9. Billy White (Louisiana)
10. Lupe Suarez (Texas)
11. Hector Lopez (California)
12. Tommy Cordova (New Mexico)
13. Adrian Arreola (California)
14. Javier Marquez (Mexico)
15. Mauro Gutierrez (Mexico)

SUPER BANTAMWEIGHTS
Champion
Mike Ayala (Texas)
1. Aaron Lopez (Texas)
2. Juan (Kid) Meza (California)
3. Louis Espinoza (Arizona)
4. Jesus Salud (Hawaii)
5. Jorge (Schoolboy) Ramirez (Cal.)
6. Jaime Garza (California)
7. Johnny Carter (Pennsylvania)
8. Harold Petty (Texas)
9. Arnel Arrozal (Oregon)
10. Jesse Benavides (Texas)
11. Oscar Muniz (California)
12. Eusebio Espinal (New York)
13. Carlos Segura (Mexico)
14. Ramon Jimenez (Mexico)
15. Al Anjel (Texas)

BANTAMWEIGHTS
Champion
Greg Richardson (Ohio)
1. James Pipps (Texas)
2. George Garcia (California)
3. Richard Sandoval (California)
4. Daniel Zaragoza (Mexico)
5. Kelvin Seabrooks (N. Carolina)
6. Albert Davila (California)
7. Antonio Avelar (Mexico)
8. Freddie Jackson (Tennessee)
9. Jerome Coffee (Tennessee)
10. Jorge Ramirez (Mexico)
11. Fernando Beltran (Mexico)
12. James Manning (Oregon)
13. Raul Perez (Mexico)
14. Frankie Duarte (California)
15. Kenny Mitchell (New York)

FLYWEIGHTS
Champion
Paul Gonzalez (California)
1. Gabriel Bernal (Mexico)
2. Juan Herrera (Mexico)
3. Javier Lucas (Mexico)
4. Freddie Castillo (Mexico)
5. Emilio Santos (Mexico)
6. Rodolfo Alvarado (Mexico)
7. Jimmy Fernandez (Mexico)
8. Ray Medel (Texas)
9. Orlando Canizales (Texas)
10. Armando Velasco (Mexico)
11. Alonzo (Strongbow) Gonzalez (Calif.)
12. Marco Antonio Benitez (Mexico)
13. Arturo Mujica (Mexico)
14. Artemio Ruiz (Mexico)
15. Felix Castillo (Texas)

LIGHT FLYWEIGHTS
Championship
Vacant
1. Isidro Perez (Mexico)
2. German Torres (Mexico)
3. Joey Olivo (California)
4. Jorge Cano (Mexico)
5. Efren Pinto (Mexico)
6. Francisco Montiel (Mexico)
7. Emilio Santos (Mexico)
8. Amado Ursua (Mexico)
9. Memo Flores (Mexico)
10. Javier Alonzo (Mexico)
11. Babe Luis (Mexico)
12. Santiago Mendez (Mexico)
13. Hilario Duran (Mexico)
14. Ismael Benitez (Mexico)
15. Adalberto Martinez (Mexico)

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own corner when the bell sounded. After taking a windup worthy of Steve Carlton, Drayton launched a right that knocked Leonard onto the apron. Magnanimous referee Joe O'Neil might have disqualified Drayton right there, but didn't. Meanwhile, Sammy was trying to steal a cheap win with an Oscar performance, claiming an injured back in the fall. After an extended period of confused buzzing, in which the impending title bout evidently came to outweight the rule book, the contest was ordered to continue. A suddenly refreshed Leonard gave it a game try, but "The Demon" smelled blood, and rendered him *hors de combat* in the succeeding round.

Lefty Steve Darnell, 162, Detroit, won a unanimous verdict over Eddie Belfiore, 159½, Bronx, in an unkempt six. Joe Cortez, referee.

Jonathan (Bilal-ski) Bacote, 139¾, Newark, outmaneuvered Hollister (Godchild) Elliot, 135¼, Waterbury, Conn., via a unanimous decision in a dull six. Joe O'Neil, referee.

Ray Velez, 143, Manhattan, was dropped early in the first, evened the score in the second, and went on to a unanimous win over Esau Staley, 141¾, Trenton, in a good four. Joe O'Neil, referee.

Top Rank, Inc.
Matchmakers—Teddy Brenner, Bruce Trampler.
Attendance—350 (estimated).
Judges—Lynne Carter, Rocky Castellani, Al DeVito.
Timekeeper—Lindsey Tucker.
Ring Announcer—Mike Buffer.
(04-04-86)

J.R. JOWETT

PHOTO BY JANET FELDMAN

1984 Olympic bantamweight gold medalist Maurizio Stecca after outpointing Ricky West in Totowa.

▶**TOTOWA—Ice World**—Chris Reid, 172¼, Little Silver, N.J., TKO'd Darryl Spain, 164, Saginaw, Mich., at 1:35 of the seventh round in a scheduled 10. The more aggressive Reid caught Spain with a barrage of punches on the ropes before the referee intervened. Reid is now 13-0 with 12 kayoes.

Maurizio Stecca, 124½, Rimini, Italy, won a unanimous decision over Ricky West, 124¾, Fayetteville, N.C., eight. Stecca, the 1984 Olympic bantamweight gold medalist, showed an amazing lack of composure, hitting after the bell on several occasions.

Olympic silver medalist Francesco Damiani, 221, Rimini, Italy, TKO'd Mike Perkins, 208, Yonkers, New York, at the end of round five.

Rocky Rosas, 138¾, Passaic, N.J., won a unanimous decision over Anthony Deshields, 142½, Philadelphia, six.

Mike Tricarico, 149, Brooklyn, TKO'd Kevin Vieldhouse, 147½, Wayne, N.J., at 0:48 of the seventh.

Chris Meakem, 150¼, Ringwood, N.J., kayoed George Ross, 144½, Williamsport, Pa., in 2:29 of round two.

Referees—Frank Cappuccino, Steve Smoger.
Judges—John Stewart, Phil Newman, Tom Kaczmarek.
Main Events Promotions.
(04-02-86)

▶**WEST ORANGE—Essex Racquet Club**—Sal Cenicola, 132¼, River Vale, N.J., TKO'd a game but outgunned Jimmy Magnifico, 131¼, Hackensack, N.J., at 2:09 of the eighth round in a scheduled 10.

William (Bo) James, 156½, Newark, TKO'd David Foster, 155, Cincinnati, at 1:38 of the second.

Don Cioffi, 138½, Denville, N.J., won a unanimous decision over Pat Massey, 131½, Cincinnati, four.

Mike Peoples, 149, Monticello, New York, kayoed Clarence Coleman, 142, Newark, in 2:59 of the sixth. Coleman is now 9-1.

Doug Wear, 175½, Beverly, Mass., won a split decision over Jean-Pierre Vassau, 172, Morristown, N.J., six. Vassau is now 3-1.

Don LaLonde, 172¼, Winnipeg, stopped Joe Brewer, 180, Chicago, at 0:34 of round three.

Referees—Tony Orlando, Rudy Battle.
Judges—Frank Cairo, Eva Shain, Frank Brunette.
Promoters—Michael Guadagno, Jr., Mike Palardy.
Matchmaker—Don Elbaum.
Attendance—1,000 (estimated).
(04-06-86)

S.M. FELDMAN

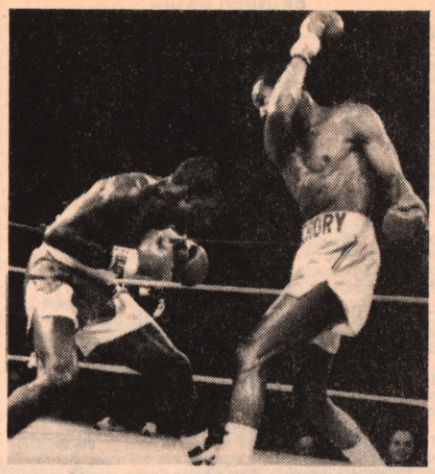

PHOTO BY PETE GOLDFIELD

Although former WBC welterweight champ Milton McCrory (right) managed to outpoint Keith Adams by a wide margin in his debut as a junior middleweight, he was far from impressive.

▶**ATLANTIC CITY—Trump Casino-Hotel**—Calling himself "a legal and legit junior middleweight," former WBC welterweight boss Milton McCrory, 157, Detroit, Mich., had his first outing since his stoppage loss to Donald Curry back in early December.

Even though he won a lopsided 10-round decision over a more than game Keith (Boogaloo) Adams, 155, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., Milt seemed to lack the fire and desire needed to mess with the division elite. The questions are open, the jury still out.

Adams, by any standard, is no title threat, yet he proved a worthy adversary if for nothing else but his grittiness under pressure. McCrory had his way all the way, but never was able to drop his foe. Adams gave him a lot of head fakes early, but little punching. As the rounds wore on, the punches he did throw lacked any steam, yet he was pesky and undaunted to the end. He was bewitched, bothered, and bewildered, but never ready to yell uncle.

Milt had some problems lugging those 157 pounds around. He feels, however, that he's ready for big-time junior middleweight competition, and even though he wasn't totally pleased with the evening's work (he did want a K.O., but praised Adams for his toughness), he was satisfied overall.

Scoring: Gene Grant had it 9-1, giving Adams only round nine. Milo Savage had it 7-3, with rounds four, eight and 10 to Adams. Richard F. Murry saw it 10-0. *The Ring* had it 9-1, giving Adams the third. Tony Perez, referee.

Mickey Ward, 143¾, Lowell, Mass., ended his scheduled six at 2:05 of the fifth when he TKO'd Darrell Curtis, 140½, Chicago. Curtis was dropped in the first, suffered a cut left eye in round four, and was dumped again in the fifth. Paul Venti, referee.

Jim Navarro, 118, Miami, pleased his ringside rooters with a TKO win over switch-hitting Troy Fletcher, 118¾, Philadelphia, at 1:04 of round seven in a scheduled 10. Troy appeared to have the upper hand until he suffered a nasty cut over the corner of his right eye in round five. His corner was unable to stop the flow of blood and the ringside doctor entered the ring to stop the bout. At that time, two cards were 3-3; one had it 4-2 for Fletcher. *The Ring* had it 4-1-1 for Troy. Paul Venti, referee. Navarro is now 12-0 with eight kayoes. Fletcher fell to 9-1-1 with two kayoes.

Smokin' Bert Cooper, 197, Philadelphia, won by TKO over Oscar Holman, 201¼, Philadelphia, when referee Perez jumped in to rescue Holman at 0:31 of the 10th and final round. The bout was even through the first five, but then Bert looked to be the more willing of the two to force the action. Starting most rounds strongly, he took the fight out of Holman. Cooper finished the ninth on a high note, and then continued it with a vengeance in the 10th round as he pinned Holman in a neutral corner. He only stopped punching when Perez said it was over. Cooper, coming back from a stoppage loss to Reggie Gross in January, was ahead on all cards, including that of *The Ring*.

Timekeeper—Roosevelt Gilbert.
Top Rank, Inc.
Matchmakers—Teddy Brenner, Bruce Trampler.
Ring Announcer—Mike Buffer.
(04-18-86)

JACK OBERMAYER

NEW YORK

▶**LONG BEACH—Nassau Arena**—A new promoter and a veteran matchmaker presented a modest but entertaining club card featuring local prelim kids at this seaside resort just outside New York City. Mike (Sonny) Carbone, 157, Levittown, Long Island, TKO'd Lynn Robinson, 154, Hampton, Va., at 0:29 of the second in a scheduled six. The poor foil Robinson tried, but couldn't hold his hands up, and was floored in each round by crunching left hooks. Arthur Mercante, Jr., referee.

Mack Brown, 146½, Freeport, Long Island, escaped with an unpopular but fair unanimous decision over Mike Peoples, 149, Monticello, New York, six. Brown started strong, but had to survive a hair raising charge by the spoiler. A trip to the floor by Mack in the fifth was ruled a "slip" by ref Mercante, but could well have been called a knockdown.

Tracy Harris, 129, New Paltz, scored a unanimous win over Darrell Jacobs, 132, Newport News, Va., in a crowd-pleasing six. Giving a *tour de force* performance, Harris did everything but knock out the tricky survivor. Sammy Viruet, referee.

In a near disaster, Carl Wilson, 155, Flushing, kayoed Richie Quiles, 156, Coney Island, in 1:07 of the second in a scheduled six. Street-fighter Quiles tried to mug Wilson, and floored him with a right in the first. But the veteran proved there's more to boxing than street fighting. Charging in wide open in the second, Quiles got caught by a sneak right counter, wobbled into the ropes, and was blasted by three "free-shots-on-goal" before crashing to the canvas, out cold. He had to be removed on a stretcher. Oscar Perez, referee.

Mark Weinman, 153, Queens, TKO'd Robert Jackson, 154½, Hampton, not out for the third in a scheduled four. Jackson was knocked down, through the ropes, in the second, and worn out. Sammy Viruet, referee.

Job Walters, 125, Long Beach, TKO'd Michael Gibbons, 128, Philadelphia, at 1:50 of the second in their scheduled four. Gibbons started fast, but faded quickly upon getting tagged, and was cowering on the ropes when referee Perez intervened.

Mark Lassic, 151, Hempstead, Long Island, edged Tyrone Johnson, 153, Bedford-Stuyvesant, by split verdict in a good four. Arthur Mercante, Jr., referee.

Promoter—Rich Nappi (R.J.N. Promotions).
Matchmaker—Gene Moore.
Attendance—900. Gross—$12,000 (estimated).
Judges—Reuben Garcia, Bernie Friedkin, Paddy Dolan.
Timekeeper—Freddie Abatiello.
Ring Announcer—Marvin Goldberg.
(03-21-86)

J.R. JOWETT

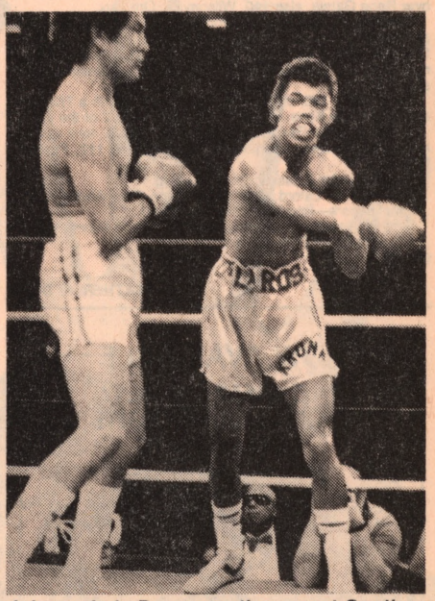

PHOTO BY PETE GOLDFIELD

Johnny de la Rosa won the vacant Continental Americas super featherweight title with a seventh round TKO over Adrian Arrelola at the Felt Forum in New York City.

▶**NEW YORK CITY—Felt Forum**—Johnny de la Rosa, 130, now boxing out of Detroit, Mich., won the vacant Continental Americas super featherweight title with a TKO over Adrian Arreola, 127, Los Angeles, at 1:19 of round seven in a scheduled 12.

For the first two rounds, it was a fight. From round three on, de la Rosa's height and reach advantages were too much against the smaller Arreola, a natural featherweight who has never been properly managed. De la Rosa is now 31-2 with 25 kayoes. Arreola is 37-9 with 21 knockouts. The veteran John LoBianco refereed.

Former Golden Gloves champion Mark McPherson, 160, New York, TKO'd Anthony Holt, another former GG champ, at 1:21 of the 10th and final round. A right hand caught and floored Holt in the final session, and referee Fred Ucci stopped the contest after Anthony went down again. McPherson is now 18-2 with seven knockouts. Holt is 13-3 with nine kayoes.

Richard Burton, 159½, New York, won a unanimous decision over Jerry Williams, 160, Philadelphia, 10. Scoring: judges George S. Colon and Ted Wint, both 7-3; judge Peter Heller, 8-2. Arthur Mercante, Jr., referee. Burton is now 11-2 with nine kayoes. Williams, who also holds a decision over Burton, is 8-4.

Garry Martin, 134½, Detroit, won a unanimous decision over Larry Leone, also 134½, Bronx, New York, eight. Scoring: Colon, 6-2; Heller, 7-1; Wint, 5-3. Arthur Mercante, Jr., referee. Martin is now 9-1 with three kayoes. Leone is 3-2-1.

George Hobbs, 151½, Brooklyn, won a majority decision over Charles (Hard Rock) Bullock, 151, New York, six. Scoring: Colon, 3-3; Heller, 4-2; Wint, 5-1. Fred Ucci, referee. Hobbs is now 4-1. Bullock is 4-1 with three kayoes.

Edwin (Indio) Diaz, 156, Bronx, went to 2-0 with a TKO over

New York police officer Dennis Mulligan, 154, at 2:17 of the third round in a scheduled four. The popular Mulligan is now 3-1. Arthur Mercante, Jr., referee.

Tunde Foster, 135, Brooklyn, TKO'd Darryl Loving, 136½, Rochester, at 2:39 of the first round in their scheduled four. Fred Ucci, referee. Foster is now 3-0—all kayoes. Loving drops to 1-1.

Timekeeper—Fred Abbatiello.
Ring Announcer—Ed Derian.
Matchmaker—Bob Goodman.
Attendance—2,053. gross—$23,022.
(04-17-86)

▶**NOTES**—This was Bobby Goodman's second show as Director of Boxing and Matchmaker of Madison Square Garden. The crowds are bigger, the matches more competitive, and the press much better handled than under the previous administration. Kudos to Bob Goodman and Steve Griffith, the Garden Boxing Department's new Manager of Marketing and Public Relations.

HERBERT G. GOLDMAN

OREGON

▶**PORTLAND—Sports Arena**—A scholarly main event allowed eight months of rust to flake off the joints of former bantam James Manning in a 10-round unanimous decision over Ron Cisneros, 122, of Denver, Col. Manning, also 122, had been out of action with a fractured right hand but showed no hesitation in slinging it at the defensive minded Cisneros.

An eight-round rematch between Portland's Ray Monge, 137, and Dale Dorsett, also 137, Longview, Wash., was an even grittier war than the original scrap that spawned the grudge. Abandoning his superior boxing skills, Monge opted to go toe-to-toe with Dorsett, the strong brawler. Again this pair drew a standing ovation and a shower of coins from an appreciative crowd. The judges' decision was a draw.

John Edwards, 140, Billings, Mont., won a unanimous decision over Rene Garcia, also 140, Wilsonville, Ore., six.

Seattle's Young Dempsey, 200, stepped in with a lively and ambitious opponent this time, Jim Ashard, also 200, Eugene. Dempsey kept a cool head despite Ashard's effective straight right hand and the Seattle native carried off a well-earned decision, six.

John Elkins, 195, debuted in his hometown with a TKO over debuting Eddie Kane, also 195, Portland, at 1:17 of the first.

Debuting Oscar Garza, 122, Vancouver, Wash., took a unanimous decision over Leonardo C'Astrajan, also 122, Portland, four.

Referees—Jim Cassidy, Bill Thornberg.
Judges—Ben Laford, George Robinson, Paul Weitzel.
Timekeepers—Ron Valeu, Dick Hubbard.
Ring Physicians—Jack Battalia, M.D., Ken Wilhelmi, M.D.
Attendance—700 (estimated).
(03-19-86)

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MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

PENNSYLVANIA

▶**PHILADELPHIA—Blue Horizon**—A positively excellent club card was topped by a brief but explosive battle in which Darryl Martin, 140, Harrisburg, returned to form and took out Murray Frazier, also 140, Philadelphia, at 0:54 of the third round in a scheduled eight. The determined, but strictly physical Frazier attacked vigorously, and gave Martin, who was walloped in his last start, some anxious moments. The southpaw Murray landed a left in the first that rocked Martin, and had him giving ground. But Darryl began to measure Murray's charges, and, late in the second, a booby-trap right dropped him. Frazier barely escaped the round, then was quickly blitzed onto the ropes at the start of the third, where referee Charlie Sgrillo rescued him.

John (Buckwheat) Farina, 121, Ardmore, and lefty Ruben Marquez, 120, Philadelphia, stood in each other's faces and warred, with Farina earning a deserved unanimous win, six. John stayed busy with short, crisp punches to Ruben's more visible but less frequent swings. Ozzie Sadler, referee.

Ricky Diaz, 113, Philadelphia, beat a style-conscious Ed Cerebe, 114, Port Richmond (Philadelphia), by majority verdict, six. Cerebe managed to move everything but his hands. Charlie Sgrillo, referee.

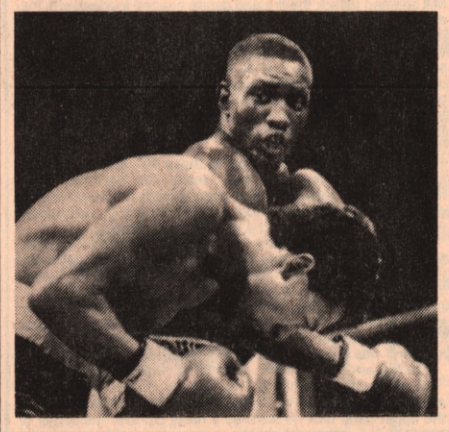
Howard Stewart, 141¾, Philadelphia, TKO'd William Reid, 140½, Washington, D.C., who was trapped in a corner, but "rescued" a bit quickly by referee Sadler at 1:28 of the second in their scheduled six.

In a slam-banger, Kevin Bucceroni, 198½, Blackwood, N.J., TKO'd Eric Valentine, 210¼, Philadelphia, who got the worst of simultaneous left hooks and wobbled into the ropes at 1:59 of the second in a scheduled four. Charlie Sgrillo, referee.

Ronald Evans, 125¼, Philadelphia, dropped Phil Carter, 126, Philadelphia, in the first and second, then just nipped a split decision in a lively four. Ozzie Saddler, referee.

Peltz Boxing Promotions.
Matchmaker—Harold Moore.
Attendance—SRO, 1400. Gross—$15,000 (estimated).
Judges—Adalaide Tyndale, Carole Polis, Joe Sweeney.
Timekeeper—J.P. Mina.
Ring Announcer—Hank Kropinski.
(03-25-86)

J.R. JOWETT



Local favorite Pernell (Sweetpea) Whitaker on his way to a 10-round unanimous decision over John Montes in Hampton, Virginia.

VIRGINIA

▶**HAMPTON—Coliseum**—Norfolk native Pernell Whitaker may slip every right hand tossed his way, but he seems unale to evade misfortune. Although he handily decisioned a durable John Montes over 10, "Sweet Pea" broke his left hand in the fourth round—an injury expected to shelve the unbeaten lightweight for at least two months. The Montes bout had been a return to the ring for Whitaker after a four-month hiatus due to an ankle injury.

The 24-year-old Montes, who had not fought since dropping a close 10-round call to Corny Boza-Edwards last July, never solved the puzzle presented by the mercurial southpaw. In round four, Montes, 138, Whittier, Calif., landed his best punch, a decent right, with absolutely no effect. On the other hand, Whitaker, 137½, landed his punches at will. Even though Pernell hardly used his aching left over the last four rounds, he easily controlled every frame. Montes was never in any danger of going down.

The scorecards read 99-90, 100-92, and 100-91. This reporter tallied 100-90. Referee Al Rothenberger had to admonish Montes forlow blows on a number of occasions.

At 8-0, with six knockouts, Whitaker (rated 13th by the WBC) belongs among the elite of the lightweight class. After his hand mends, he is certain to forge a path to world championship honors. Pernell, skillfully handled by managers Shelley Finkel and Lou Duva, as well as trainer George Benton, should receive a title shot by early 1987.

Montes slips to 24-4 with 22 kayoes. He came into this bout ranked 14th by the WBC.

The newest charge in the Duva stable, Puerto Rican 130-pounder John John Molina, swept Darrell Jacobs, 132¼, Virginia Beach, over four rounds. Molina floored Jacobs with a left hook in the first on the way to his third pro victory in as many outings. John John has a lot of talent, as evidenced by his '85 amateur world championship. His busy style is similar to that of countryman Edwin Rosario. Ernie Green refereed this show-opener.

In a battle of local heavyweights, Mike Rouse, 246, Hampton, earned a four-round split decision over Danny Prescott, 202, Virginia Beach. Rouse now stands at 5-0 (four kayoes); Prescott dipped to 2-3.

Now 7-0-1 (two kayoes), Floyd Favors, 131¼, Capitol Heights, Md., seemed fortunate to escape with an eight-round draw against Detroit's Kent Hardy, 130½. Favors was decked by a left hook in the fourth round of an exciting bout. Both fighters suffered various cuts and bruises. Two of the judges gave the respective combatants one-point margins of superiority, while a third scored the bout even. *The Ring* saw Hardy a two-point victor, 76-74. Ernie Green reffed.

Favors will struggle even more against tougher opposition than Hardy, who, at 9-2, is not bad. Favors has neither the power nor the chin to contend with top flight 130-pounders.

In a pleasing walk-out bout, Ricky Stoner, 142, Houston, made it nine in a row without a loss by edging a game Mike Peoples, Chicago, over six close rounds. the scoring of the judges was split. Peoples slipped to 6-10.

Main Events, Inc.
Attendance—4618.
Ring Announcer—Ross McCallum.
ABC-TV.
(03-09-86)

STEVE WALDMAN

CANADA

EDMONTON

▶**CALGARY—Corral**—Olympic silver medalist Willie deWit, 215, ran his pro record to 10-0-1 by stopping Jeff Jordan, 207, Columbus, Ohio, who was unable to answer the bell for the fifth round. Ken Lakusta will defend his Canadian heavyweight title against deWit in Edmonton in June. Look for a record gate in that one.

Ken Billinghurst, Jr., Calgary, and Albert Lambert, Calgary, drew, eight. Lambert really won it—by a city block.

Don Fiddler, Calgary, stopped Gasper Bonomo, Edmonton, at 0:42 of the fourth round in a scheduled six, lightweights.

Les Wisniewski, Calgary, won a unanimous decision over Jimmy Cheung, Edmonton, six, welterweights.

Gary Robinson, Calgary, won a unanimous decision over Dean Shannon, Vancouver, six, middles.

Attendance—6,121.
(03-27-86)

NOVA SCOTIA

▶**HALIFAX—Sportsplex**—Shawn O'Sullivan knocked out late sub Albert Lopez, 149, in round two. Lopez arrived at the Halifax airport at 1:30 a.m. the day of the fight. His announced record was 32-8, but inquiries corrected this to 29-13. The contract for the bout stipulated 149 pounds, so Lopez had to sweat off two and a half pounds after the initial weigh-in. He should not have accepted the bout on such short notice.

Pat Lane, Toronto, won a unanimous decision over Tim Pettipas, Montreal, six, featherweights. Lane was down twice in the fifth.

Donovan Boucher, Toronto, won a unanimous decision over Benoit Soudreau, Shediac, N.B., six.

Marcel Gobeil, Halifax, won an unpopular split decision over Gary McIntyre, Bair Ste. Anne, six.

Darrell Flint, Sackville, kayoed Andrew Lohnes, in 0:22 of the first round.
(03-27-86)

ONTARIO

▶**TORONTO**—Canadian lightweight champion Remo DiCarlo, 139, Toronto, knocked out Gary Campbell, 137, Indianapolis, in 2:11 of the fourth round in a scheduled 10.

Willie Featherstone, 172½, Toronto, won a unanimous decision over Jerry Harris, 177, Indianapolis, eight. Harris took a beating. All three cards were 80-70.

Harry Hughes, 140, New York, won a unanimous decision over John Wright, 136, Detroit, six. A fast packed action bout with no knockdowns. The scores were 60-54, 60-53, and 60-54.

Kevin Brazier, 155, Indianapolis, knocked out Gary Normandau, 161, St. Catharines, Ontario, with a solid left hook to the chin in 2:10 of the first round.

Alfonso Bailey, 154, New York, TKO'd Wayne Halfkenny, 154, Hamilton, who was unable to answer the bell for the fourth round due to cuts around the left eye.

Frenchy Langois, 149, St. Catharines, made his pro debut by stopping Pat Jackson, 155, Toronto, at 0:54 of the third round in a scheduled four. Referee Harry Davis stopped the bout.

Referees—Harry Davis, Ed. Gaudet.
Judges—R. Hipolito, B. Cormier, C. Williams.
Timekeepers—A. Paris, F. Shillilo.

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Promoter—Benny D'Amico.
(04-01-86)

FRANK ALLNUTT

CENTRAL AMERICA

PANAMA

Roberto Duran recorded his second comeback win with a second-round kayo over Jose Suero before a packed house of over 7,000 fans in Panama City.

▶PANAMA City—Nuevo Panama Gymnasium—Roberto Duran, 161¾, a shadow of his former self, won his second comeback bout with an easy kayo over unknown Jose Suero, 162, Dominican Republic, in 1:45 of the second round in a scheduled 10 before a packed house.

A long left to the head followed by a right cross sent Suero down on his back. The Dominican stayed on one knee with both yellow gloves on the canvas until referee Carlos Berrocal counted him out. He then got up and went to the center of the ring looking for Duran, who by that time was being hailed as a conqueror, surrounded by well wishers.

The former triple champion is now scheduled to meet Robbie Sims in Las Vegas on June 23rd, on the same card with Barry McGuigan-Fernando Sosa and Thomas Hearns-Mark Medal.

Roy Thompson, the WBA's eighth ranked junior flyweight, won a unanimous decision over Leonardo Paredes, 10.

Unbeaten Mario Moreno, 135¼, kayoed veteran Radames Checo, 134, Dominican Republic, in 0:59 of the fifth round in their scheduled 10.

Panamanian bantamweight champion Azael Moran won a majority decision over Colombia's Miguel Maturana, 10.

Humberto Sosa, 131¾, won a unanimous decision over Jaime Urriola, 134, six.

Featherweight Luis Mendieta made his pro debut with a unanimous decision over Edwin Murillo, four.

Attendance—7,381. Gross—$46,116.
(04-18-86)

▶PANAMA CITY—Nuevo Panama Arena—Venezuelan Bernardo Pinango knocked out Chilean Benito Badilla in 2:06 of the sixth round with a vicious right to the chin followed by a left hook to the head. Carlos Berrocal, referee.

fEdgar Monserrat, 116, won a unanimous decision over Jose Chacon, 115¾, 10. The scores were 98-93, 99-92, and 99-93. A right to the head floored Chacon in the final round.

David Harper, 140¾, kayoed Herminio Perez, 139¾, in 2:01 of the first round in a scheduled eight.

Silverio Barcenas, 106¼, outscored Fidel Salazar, 106, four.
(03-01-86)

▶COLON—Panama Al Brown Arena—Aquilino Asprilla, 135½, stopped Victor Aponte, 136½, Puerto Rico, at 1:45 of the fifth round in a scheduled 10.

Rafael Williams, the WBA's ninth ranked lightweight, won a lopsided unanimous decision over Juan Lebron, 10.

Mario Moreno, 135, stopped Jose Santana, 133¼, at 2:59 of the third round in their scheduled 10. Moreno is now 8-0-1. Salomon Allen, referee.

Julio Gudino, 114¾, the WBA's 10th ranked flyweight, TKO'd southpaw Alex Miranda, 112¾, who was not allowed out for the eighth round by ringside physician Dr. Eugenio Williams. Jose Campos, referee. This was the best fight of the night. Miranda was down in the first round and Gudino in the second.

Gerardo Rodriguez, 121¼, won a unanimous decision over Egmidio Ona, 125, Ecuador, in the opening four.

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Attendance—765. Gross—$2,735.
(02-28-86)

JOAQUIN MARTINEZ-ROUSSET

EUROPE

UNITED KINGDOM

▶LONGFORD—Crest Hotel—Dennis Andries, 174¾, Hackney, kept his British light heavyweight title by stopping Keith Bristol, 175, referee Harry Gibbs intervening at 1:34 of round six in a scheduled 12. Bristol was staggered by a left jab and following right cross to the chin. An over-arm right put him on the canvas. He rose at nine, Andries rained in punch after punch, and the bout was stopped.

Glen Dainty, 121¼, Canvey Island, stopped Chris Clarkson, 121¼, Hull, referee Nick White calling a halt at 1:24 of round four in a scheduled six twos with Clarkson bleeding from the nose and under pressure.

Abner Blackstock, 186, Cardiff, easily outpointed Gerry Reid, 188, Camberley, referee White scoring it 59½-58 after six. Reid was down twice.

Ritchie Edwards, 135½, New Cross, outpointed Tyrell Wilson, 141, Newport, referee White casting it 59½-58 after six twos.

Harry Cowap, Balham, the Irish heavyweight champion, stopped Steve Lewin, Streatham, referee Sid Nathan intervening at 2:50 of round five in a scheduled eight after Lewin had been down twice.

Trevor Smith, 144¾, Harlow, outpointed Paul Wetter, 143¾, Newport, over six twos, referee Nathan scoring it 59½-57½.
(02-13-86)

▶DIGBETH—Civic Hall—Former British welter champ Kostas Petrou, 148, avenged a previous defeat by outpointing Lee McKenzie, 150½, Croydon, referee Paul Thomas casting it a wide 79½-76½ after eight. Lee was down four times, the last without a count.

Central Area featherweight champ Mike Whalley, 128½, was too heavy for John Hyland, 120, Liverpool, the bout being stopped by referee Thomas in Whalley's favour at 1:30 of round seven in a scheduled eight. Hyland was well on top at the halfway stage, then faded. Whalley was down in round four, and Hyland in round six.

Paul Timmons, 130, Alfreton, outpointed Nigel Haddock, 126, Llanelli, referee Bryan Arnott casting it 60-57½ after six twos, and indicating that Timmons had not lost a round.

Debutant Gary Peynado, 116, Nechells, won every round outpointing Seamus Tuohy, 115, Manchester, referee Arnott casting it 60-57 after six twos.

Carlton Warren, 162½, Camberwell, kayoed Jason Baxter, 163, Leicester, at 1:37 of round two in a scheduled six twos. A short right did the trick. Bryan Arnott, referee.

Chris Tulley, Birmingham, 132, outpointed Tony McLaggon, 131½, Cardiff, referee Arnott scoring it 60-58½ after six twos, indicating Tulley had not lost a round.
(02-13-86)

▶BEDWORTH—Civic Hall—Mark Poultney, 138, Bedworth, stopped sub Martin Bolton, 142, Lowestoft, referee John Coyle intervening at 1:35 of round two after Bolton had been down three times.

Gary Maxwell, 125, Sheffield, outpointed Mick Markie, 121½, referee John Keane's card showing 59½-58½ after six.

Floored in round two, Darren Bowen, 147, Wednesbury, got off the canvas to kayo Steve Craggs, 148, Bedworth, in round four of a scheduled six twos with just one second left in the round.

Patrick Loftus, 134, Peterborough, stopped Wayne Poultney, 134, Bedworth referee Keane calling a halt at 1:11 of round three in a scheduled six twos when Poultney was cut by the right eye.

Martin Kielty, 158, Birmingham, kayoed Chris Winter, 159,

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Grimsby, in 1:58 of round three in a scheduled four twos. Winter had been down twice previously.

Geoff Calder, 136, Kidderminster, outpointed Mark Broome, 134, Grimsby, referee Keane scoring it 59½-58½ after six twos.
(02-13-86)

▶**WOLVERHAMPTON—Sporting Club**—Gary Flear, 145, Birmingham, outpointed Lennie Gloster, Peterborough, referee Jim Pridding scoring it 79-78 after eight twos.

Simon Turner, 117, Birmingham, outpointed Dave Mallaby, 116, Doncaster, referee Terry O'Connor casting it 59½-58 after six twos.

Debutant Paul Burton, 146, Sheffield, stopped Paul Bowen, 132, Wednesbury, referee Pridding intervening in the opening round when Bowen was cut by the right eye. This was a scheduled four twos.

Peter Bowen (no relation to Paul), Wednesbury, 128, outpointed Joey Dee, also 128, Alfreton, over six twos, referee O'Connor casting it 59½-58.
(02-11-86)

▶**LONDON—National Sporting Club**—Paul Cook, 141½, Bethnal Green, stopped Northern Area welter champ Ken Foreman, 142½, referee Larry O'Connell calling a halt at 1:47 of round five in a scheduled eight after Foreman had been down three times.

Errol McDonald, 144½, Nottingham, drew with Kid Milo, 147, Birmingham, over six twos. Jack Snipe, referee.

Mervyn Bennett, 133, Cardiff, outpointed Dave Smith, 138½, referee O'Connell scoring it 79½-78 after eight twos.

Jimmy Harrison, 146, Wandsworth, kept his unbeaten record by outpointing Steve Ward, 149, Nottingham, over six twos, referee Snipe casting it 59½-58½.
(02-17-86)

▶**LONDON—Royal Albert Hall**—Chris Pyatt, 151¾, Leicester, won the British light middleweight title by stopping champion Prince Rodney, 154, Huddersfield, who was counted out on one knee by referee Roland Dakin at 0:50 of round nine in a scheduled 12. Rodney said he could have carried on, but that his vision had been blurred, he having bruised the muscles of his left eye. Pyatt looked well ahead at the time, in spite of being cut on the right cheek.

Gary Mason, 241, Wandsworth, kept his unbeaten record by knocking out Denroy Bryan, 216, in 1:20 of the opening round in a scheduled six threes.

R.W. Smith, 149, St. Ives, returned after a period of inactivity to stop Billy Edwards, Hackney, 147¼, referee Roy Francis intervening as the bell ended round five in a scheduled eight. Edwards had been down twice. Smith was cut by the left eye.

Michael Watson, 163¼, Islington, stopped Karl Barwise, 161½, Tooting, referee Paddy Sower calling a halt at 1:29 of round three in a scheduled six after Barwise had been down.

Lloyd Hibbert, Birmingham, beat Commonwealth light middleweight champ Nick Wilshire, Bristol, in a non-title fight, referee Roy Francis accepting Wilshire's retirement by his corner at the end of round eight in a scheduled 10. Both were inside 156. Wilshire, game enough, was under great pressure at the time of the closure.

British flyweight champ Duke McKenzie, 112½, Croydon, made it 13 in a row by easily outpointing American Sunny Long, 113¼. Referee Dakin scored it 100-95½, indicating that McKenzie had not lost a round.
(02-19-86)

▶**COVENTRY—Hotel Leofric**—Lennie Gloster, 144½, Peterborough, produced a surprise result by knocking out former amateur star Mark Poultney, Bedworth, 142, in 2:17 of the opening round. Referee was Paul Thomas. Poultney, who had won his first three pro fights, was caught by a body punch followed by a left to the head.

Dave Pratt, 129½, Leicester, outpointed Les Walsh, 130, Manchester, referee Thomas scoring it 79-78 after eight twos. Walsh's left eye was cut and swollen.

Ray Newby, 140, Nottingham, won every round in outpointing Ian Harrison, 138, Manchester, referee Bryan Arnott casting it 60-57 after six twos. Harrison had a swelling by the left eye.

G.L. Booth, 153, Manchester, drew with Trevor Grant, London, 152, who was making his debut. Bryan Arnott, referee.
(02-20-86)

▶**NEWCASTLE—Mayfair Ballroom**—Frenchman Anaclet Wamba, 196, caused a bit of an upset by outpointing John Westgarth, 214, Newcastle, referee Fred Potter scoring it 99-98 over 10. Wamba is proving something of a jinx, having now defeated five of the six British boxers he has met.

Paul Lister, 205, Newcastle, confirmed a previous win by outpointing Ian Priest, 210, Alfreton, referee Arnold Bryson casting it 60-58 after six, indicating Lister hadn't lost a round. Priest, who was cut near the left eye, was floored in the fourth round.

Noel Magee, 172, Belfast, remained unbeaten after outpointing Barry Ahmed, 177, South Shields, referee Bryson casting it 79½-78 over eight.

Sean West, 163, Alfreton, stopped Tommy Houston, 165, Blackpool, referee Bryson intervening at 1:25 of round two after Houston had been floored twice.
(02-20-86)

▶**HALIFAX—Civic Theatre**—George Collins, 148, Camberley, gained his 11th successive win by stopping Mark Davey, also 148, Wakefield, referee Ron Hackett calling a halt at 1:59 of round five in a scheduled eight after Davey had been down twice.

Michael Marsden, 134, Leeds, won the Central Area lightweight title by outpointing champion Mohammad Lovelock, 134½, Manchester, referee Hackett scoring it a narrow 98-97½ after 10.

Debutant Brian Schumacher, 178, Liverpool, kayoed Geoff Rymer, 176, in 1:20 of round one in a scheduled six twos. A right cross did the trick.

Floyd Havard, 131, Swansea, kept his unbeaten certificate and didn't lose a round in outpointing Dean Bramhald, 133½, over six, referee Mickey Vann casting it 60-58.

Ernie Noble, 133, Wakefield, stopped debutant Brent Gargano, 132, Manchester, referee Vann intervening at 1:10 of round five in a scheduled six with Gargano under pressure.

BRITISH COMMONWEATH RATINGS

HEAVYWEIGHTS
Championship
Vacant
1. Trevor Berbick (Canada)
2. Frank Bruno (Great Britain)
3. Hughroy Currie (Great Britain)
4. Proud Kilimanjaro (Zimbabwe)
5. Horace Notice (Great Britain)
6. Funso Banjo (Great Britain)
7. Dave Russell (Australia)
8. Mike Simwelu (Zambia)
9. Ken Lakusta (Canada)
10. Conroy Nelson (Canada)

CRUISERWEIGHTS
Champion
Chisanda Mutti (Zambia)
1. Bashiru Ali (Nigeria)
2. John Odhiambo (Kenya)
3. Sammy Reeson (Great Britain)
4. Kevin Wagstaff (Australia)
5. Stewart Lithgo (Great Britain)
6. Young Dempsey (Canada)
7. Eddie Melo (Canada)
8. Ernie Barr (Bahamas)
9. Cedric Parsons (Canada)
10. Roy Smith (Great Britain)

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
Champion
Leslie Stewart (Trinidad)
1. Prince Mama Muhammad (Ghana)
2. Dennis Andries (Great Britain)
3. Lotte Mwale (Zambia)
4. Keith Bristol (Great Britain)
5. Wally Carr (Australia)
6. Enoch Chama (Zambia)
7. Doug Sam (Australia)
8. Don LaLonde (Canada)
9. Joe Lasisi (Nigeria)
10. Flash Chisango (Zimbabwe)

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Champion
Tony Sibson (Great Britain)
1. Herol Graham (Great Britain)
2. Mark Kaylor (Great Britain)
3. Murray Sutherland (Canada)
4. Michael Olajide (Canada)
5. Ayub Kalule (Uganda)
6. Errol Christie (Great Britain)
7. Brian Anderson (Great Britain)
8. Jimmy Price (Great Britain)
9. Paul Muyodi (Uganda)
10. Lou Cafaro (Australia)

LIGHT MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Champion
Nick Wilshire (Great Britain)
1. Mike McCallum (Jamaica)
2. John Mugabi (Uganda)
3. Matthew Hilton (Canada)
4. Chris Pyatt (Great Britain)
5. Prince Rodney (Great Britain)
6. John Munduga (Uganda)
7. Ken Salisbury (Australia)
8. Gary Cooper (Great Britain)
9. David Noel (Trinidad)
10. Brian Muller (Guyana)

WELTERWEIGHTS
Champion
Lloyd Honeyghan (Great Britain)
1. Colin Jones (Great Britain)
2. Sylvester Mittee (Great Britain)
3. David Hilton (Canada)
4. Brian Janssen (Australia)
5. Kirkland Laing (Great Britain)
6. Rocky Kelly (Great Britain)
7. Judas Clottey (Ghana)
8. Jeff Malcolm (Australia)
9. Stone Phiri (Zambia)
10. Charles Nwokoloe (Nigeria)

LIGHT WELTERWEIGHTS
Champion
Billy Famous (Nigeria)
1. Terry Marsh (Great Britain)
2. Pat Leglise (Australia)
3. Tony Laing (Great Britain)
4. Mohammed Kawoya (Uganda)
5. Lloyd Christie (Great Britain)
6. Davidson Andeh (Nigeria)
7. John Herbert (Canada)
8. Ricky Anderson (Canada)
9. Barrington Cambridge (Guyana)
10. Joseph Alexander (Trinidad)

LIGHTWEIGHTS
Champion
Barry Michael (Australia)
1. Cornelius Boza-Edwards (Great Britain)
2. Terrence Alli (Guyana)
3. Dale Artango (Australia)
4. Graeme Brooke (Australia)
5. Remo DiCarlo (Canada)
6. Tony Willis (Great Britain)
7. Langton Tinago (Zimbabwe)
8. Ian McLeod (Great Britain)
9. Sam Ago Kotey (Ghana)
10. Paul Chance (Great Britain)

JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHTS
Champion
John Sichula (Zambia)
1. Pat Cowdell (Great Britain)
2. Tony Miller (Australia)
3. Patrick Ford (Guyana)
4. John Doherty (Great Britain)
5. Najib Daho (Great Britain)
6. Ray Akway (Zimbabwe)
7. Sam Akromah (Ghana)
8. Hakeem Ali (Nigeria)
9. Pat Doherty (Great Britain)
10. Percy Israel (Australia)

FEATHERWEIGHTS
Champion
Tyrone Downes (Trinidad)
1. Barry McGuigan (Great Britain)
2. Azumah Nelson (Ghana)
3. Jim McDonnell (Great Britain)
4. Clyde Ruan (Great Britain)
5. Modest Napunyi (Kenya)
6. John Feeney (Great Britain)
7. Charles Mandaya (Zimbabwe)
8. Tony Pep (Canada)
9. Robert Dickie (Great Britain)
10. Peter Harris (Great Britain)

BANTAMWEIGHTS
Champion
Paul Ferreri (Australia)
1. Ray Minus (Bahamas)
2. Ray Gilbody (Great Britain)
3. Jeff Fenech (Australia)
4. Francis Musankabala (Zambia)
5. John Farrell (Great Britain)
6. Rob Webb (Great Britain)
7. Billy Hardy (Great Britain)
8. Joe Orewa (Nigeria)
9. Chris Ash (Ghana)
10. Titus Samwenda (Zimbabwe)

FLYWEIGHTS
Championship
Vacant
1. Charlie Magri (Great Britain)
2. Stephen Muchoki (Kenya)
3. Richard Clarke (Jamaica)
4. Duke McKenzie (Great Britain)
5. Wayne Mulholland (Australia)
6. Junior Thompson (Australia)
7. Dave McAuley (Great Britain)
8. Charlie Brown (Great Britain)
9. Gabriel Kuphey (Great Britain)
10. Jimmy Young (Nigeria)

Carl Gaffney, 206, Leeds, stopped sub Chris Devine, 203, Chesterfield, at 1:12 of the eighth and final round.

Ian Murray, 138, Manchester, easily outpointing Steve Harwood, 142, Batley, referee Vann scoring it 59½-58 after six.
(02-20-86)

▶**BRADFORD—Yorkshire Executive Sporting Club**—Charlie Watson, 153½, Bradford, outpointed Newton Barnett, 152, Camberwell, over six, referee Brian Hogg casting it 60-57½.

Des Gargano, 124, Manchester, outpointed Kevin Taylor, 125½, referee Hogg's card showing 59½-58½ after six twos.

Richard Wagstaff, 149½, Morley, drew with Taffy Morris, 152½, Darlington, over six twos. Keith Garner, referee.

Tony Smith, 150, didn't lose a round in outpointing Bobby McGowan, 151, Leeds, referee Garner casting it 60-57½ after six twos. McGowan afterwards announced his retirement from the ring.

▶**GLASGOW—St. Andrews Sporting Club**—Steve Boyle, 134¾, gained a shot at the British lightweight title by winning his final eliminator against Mickey Baker, 134¼, referee Harry Gibbs intervening at 2:58 of round two in a scheduled 12 after Baker had been down from a left to the chin.

Pat Clinton, 116, won every round in outpointing Tony Rahman, 115, Cardiff, referee Len Mullen scoring it 60-57 after six.

Joe Kelly, 116, didn't lose a round in outscoring Gordon Stobie, 116½, Darlington, referee Mullen casting it 60-58 after six. Stobie was down in round one, and was cut by the left eye.

Billy Buchanan, 139½, gained a narrow points win over Neil Patterson, 144, Darlington, referee Mullen's card showing 59-58½ after six. Buchanan was cut by the left eye.
(02-24-86)

▶**DUDLEY—Civic Hall**—Keith Ward, 120, Merthyr, drew with Shane Sylvester, also 120, Dudley, eight. Frank Parkes, referee.

Tommy Taylor, 175, Hansford, outpointed Ronnie Tucker, Sheffield, 175, referee Geoff Clark casting it a narrow 59½-59 after six twos. Taylor had been inactive for close to five years.

Gary Somerville, 144, Birmingham, stopped Paul Wetter, also 144, Newport, referee Clark intervening at 0:50 of round five in a scheduled six twos. Wetter protested that he was ready, willing, and able to continue.

Shane Porter, 122, Kettering didn't lose a round outpointing Simon Turner, 121, Birmingham, referee Clark scoring it 60-57½ after six twos.

In another six twos, Gary Peynado, 120, Meachill, outpointed Tony Heath, 118, referee Clark casting it 60-57½, indicating that Peynado hadn't lost a round.

Paul Seddon, 139, Birmingham, narrowly outpointed Geoff Calder, also 139, Kidderminster, referee Clark's card showing 59½-59 after six.
(02-20-86)

▶**WEMBLEY—Arena**—Horace Notice, 207, Birmingham, kayoed American Curtis Jones, 191½, with a right to the jaw in 1:17 of round two in a scheduled eight on the Bruno-Coetzee undercard. Larry O'Connell, referee.

Gary Mason, 236½, Wandsworth, stopped American Charles Hostetter, 197¼, the bout being stopped at 2:35 of the opening round after Hostetter had been down from a right to the head.

Gary Stretch, 155½, St. Helens, kayoed Ian Martin, 155½, Birmingham, referee Richie Davies' count continuing after the bell had ended the opening round. The final punch was a right hook.

Tony Wilson, 176½, Birmingham, outpointed Jonjo Greene, 176½, Manchester, referee Davies casting it 79-77½ after eight. Greene was cut by the right eye.

Andrew Meyers, 144, didn't lose a round in outpointing George Jones, 137½, referee O'Connell scoring it 60-57½ after six.
(03-04-86)

▶**LONDON—Merton Civic Hall**—Al Malcolm, 216, Birmin-

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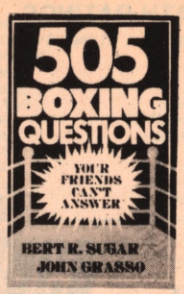

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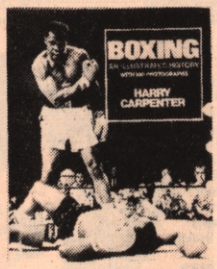

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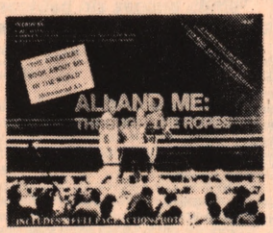

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gham, stopped Bobby Wells, Kingston, 218½, referee Sid Nathan intervening at 0:46 of the sixth and final round after Wells had been down twice.

Lou Gent, 177¾, Streatham, stopped Johnny Williams, 184½, Battersea, referee Nathan intervening at the end of round four in a scheduled six. Williams was on the canvas when the bell sounded, rose at six, but was adjudged in no position to continue.

Paul Dawson, 136¾, Kingston, drew with Teddy Anderson, 137½, Wickford, over six twos. Richie Davies, referee.

Andrew Furlong, 135, Fulham, beat Barry Bacon, 139, Alfreton, referee Davies intervening at 1:41 of the sixth (two-minute) and final round when Bacon was cut near the right eye.

Carlton Warren, 163¼, Battersea, kept his unbeaten record by stopping Steve Ward, 163, Nottingham, referee Davies calling a halt after Ward had been down three times.

Peter Bell, 127½, Dagenham, outpointed Joey Dee, 129, Alfreton, over six twos, referee Dacies casting it 59½-58.

(02-27-86)

▶**LONDON—York Hall**—John Moody, 173, Rayleigh, won the vacant Southern Area light heavyweight title by stopping Lennie Howard, 172¾, Chelmsford, referee Harry Gibbs intervening at 2:21 of round six after Howard had been down.

Errol McDonald, 141, stayed unbeaten after stopping Gary Flear, 147, Birmingham, referee Gibbs calling a halt at 1:50 of round five in a scheduled eight twos when Flear was cut near the left eye.

Mick Chmilowskyj, 204, Edmonton, beat Jess Harding, Potters Bar, 211¼, who was disqualified by referee Tony Walker at 1:36 of round five in a scheduled eight twos for allegedly hitting low. Mick had previously been down twice for long counts. Harding was out near the right eye.

Chris Blake, 143¾, didn't lose a round outpointing Lennie Gloster, 141, Peterborough, referee Walker casting it 60-58 after six.

Brian Nickels, 134½, Kilburn, stopped Pat Loftus, 133, Hartlepool, referee Walker intervening as the bell ended round five. Loftus had been down twice.

Andy Sinclair, 140, Maidenhead, outpointed Tyrell Wilson, 141, Newport, referee Walker casting it 59½-58½ after six twos.

(02-27-86)

▶**LEICESTER—Holiday Inn**—Mark Walker, 170, Leigh, kayoed Sean West, 168, in 1:19 of the opening round in a scheduled eight twos. West had already been down for nine.

Mike Breen, 156, Manchester, drew with Mark Brogan, 155½, over four twos.

Also over four twos, Rocky Lester, 138, Leicester, drew with Ted Mahaffay, Blackpool.

Tony Carter, 122, Manchester, kayoed Adie Whalley, 118, Nottingham, in 1:41 of round one in a scheduled six twos. Whalley had already been down for eight. Both were making their pro debuts.

Referee Jim Pridding officiated in every contest.

(03-03-86)

▶**GLASGOW—Whitbread Sporting Club**—Franki Moro, 156, Liverpool, didn't lose a round outpointing Tommy Campbell, 155½, Blantyre, over eight, referee Billy Rafferty casting it 80-79. Campbell had been inactive for nearly a year, and was cut by the left eye.

John Bennie, 127, Hurlford, stopped Stuart Carmichael, 127½, Hull, referee Danny McCafferty intervening at 1:28 of round four after Carmichael had been down.

Drew Black, 140, Coatbridge, kayoed Dean Marsden, 138, Leeds, in 1:21 of round five with a left to the hand. Marsden had been down in round three.

Harry Mullen, 150, Glasgow, kayoed Peter Phillips, 149¼, with a left to the head in 1:30 of round two. Billy Rafferty, referee.

Gary Maxwell, 131, beat Craig Windsor, 129½, Coatbridge, referee McCafferty calling a halt at 1:02 of round five when Windsor was cut near the left eye.

(03-03-86)

▶**LIVERPOOL—Liver Sporting Club**—Steve Goodwin, 176, Liverpool, drew with Blaine Longsden, Warrington, 177, over eight. Mickey Vann, referee. Goodwin was floored twice in round six.

Peter Ashcroft, 146, Liverpool, stopped Wayne Crolla, 148, Manchester, referee Vann intervening near the end of round four with Crolla under pressure. Crolla later announced his retirement from the ring.

Gerard Treble, 145, Liverpool, stopped G.L. Booth, Manchester, 148, referee Phil Cowsell calling a halt at 0:52 of the opening round in a scheduled six after Booth had been down.

Kevin Taylor, 122, Oldham, outpointed Jimmy Bott, 121, Liverpool, referee Cowsell scoring it 59-57½ after six. Bott had been inactive for a year, and it showed.

(03-04-86)

▶**LONDON—Elephant & Castle Recreation Centre**—Mark Mills, 146¼, won the vacant Southern Area welterweight title by stopping Sid Smith, 145, Forest Hill, Smith retiring at the end of round seven in a scheduled 10 with a cut near the left optic. Mills looked comfortably ahead at the time. Mike Jacobs, referee.

Shane Porter, 127¾, Kettering, scored a narrow points win over Mark Champney, 127, referee Jack Snipe casting it 59-58½ after six twos. Champney was down twice and Porter once.

Roy Callaghan, 142, Kentish Town, easily outscored Robert Southey, also 142, Abingdon, referee Snipe's card showing 59½-58 after six twos.

Jimmy Harrison, Wandsworth, kayoed Delroy Pearce, Canning Town, in 0:47 of round two in a scheduled six twos. Pearce had been inactive for some time.

Andy Sinclair, 140, Maidenhead, narrowly outpointed Paul Stockton, 138, referee Snipe scoring it 59-58½ after six twos.

(03-10-86)

▶**GLASGOW—Plaza Ballroom**—Dave Savage, 133, Glasgow, outpointed Steve Pollard, 131, Hull, referee Billy Rafferty scoring it 79½-78½ over eight. Both had eye injuries. Pollard, down in round six for a short count, was caught off balance.

Dave Douglas, 154½, narrowly outpointed Danny Quiggs, 156½, referee Rafferty casting it 59-58½ over six twos. Douglas was down briefly in round four.

Another narrow winner was Gary Jacobs, 149, Glasgow, who outpointed Alastair Laurie, 145, Selkirk, referee Len Mullen scoring it 79-78½ after eight.

Peter Bradley, London, 132, didn't lose a round in outpointing Dean Bramhald, 134, Doncaster, referee Mullen's card showing 80-77 after eight.

James McBride, 124½, also didn't lose a round in outpointing Ronnie Stevenson, 122, Doncaster, referee Mullen scoring it 40-38½ after four.

(03-10-86)

▶**STOKE—Kings Hall**—Frank McCord, 147, Swansea, stopped Junaid Musah, also 147, Manchester, referee John Coyle intervening at 1:06 of round seven in a scheduled eight after Musah had been down.

Noel Magee, 173, didn't lose a round in outpointing Winston Burnett, Cardiff, 171, referee Coyle casting it 80-76 after eight twos. It was Magee's eighth successive victory.

Mark Pearce, 134, drew with Ray Newby, also 134, on referee Geoff Clark's card over six twos.

John McGlynn, 147, Swansea, stopped Claude Rossi, 149, Derby, referee Clarke calling a halt at 1:28 of the sixth and final two-minute round after Rossi had been down twice.

Tony Heath, 119, Leicester, won every round in outpointing Dave Beech, 118, Stoke, referee Clarke scoring it 60-57 after six twos.

(03-05-86)

▶**MANCHESTER—Anglo-American Sporting Club**—Brian Roche, 137, Liverpool, outpointed Sugar Gibiliru, also 137, referee Brian Hogg casting it 79½-77 after eight twos. Roche had a swelling near the left eye.

Carl Gaynor, 127, Manchester, drew with Barry North, 128, Sheffield, over six twos. Bill Cowsill, referee. North was making his pro debut.

Robert Riley, 144½, Sheffield, outpointed debutant Mick Kane, 145, Alfreton, referee Cowsill casting it 59½-57½ after six twos.

Debutant Nigel Crook, 130, outpointed Tony Clarke, also 130, referee Hogg scoring it 59½-58½ after six.

(03-04-86)

▶**CARDIFF—Star Leisure Centre**—Floyd Havard, 133½, Swansea, outpointed Russell Jones, 129½, Gilfach Goch, referee Adrian Morgan scoring it 78½-78 after eight. Russell had swellings by both eyes.

Brian Holmes, 119, Glasgow, kept his unbeaten record by outpointing Keith Ward, 122, Merthyr, over eight twos, referee Morgan casting it a narrow 79-78½.

Neil Munn, 161, Cardiff, made it five in a row and didn't lose a round in outpointing Seamus Casey, 156, Alfreton, referee Wynford Jones' card showing 80-76½ after eight.

Over six twos, Adrian Staples, 127½, Rhydyfelin, also didn't lose a round in outpointing Freddy Potter, 127½, Southampton, over six twos. Triallist referee Mike Heatherweick officiated, and Adrian Morgan scored it 60-57½ from outside the ring.

(03-10-86)

▶**MANCHESTER—New Century Hall**—Former British light middleweight champion Clinto McKenzie, 137¼, Croydon, established himself as a leading contender for his old title when he stopped Tony Adams, 139¾, Brixton, referee John Coyle intervening at 2:00 of round seven with Adams under pressure. This fight was for the Southern Area title, and was also an eliminator for the British crown.

Floored in round two, Najib Daho, 133, Manchester, came back to outpoint Eddie Lloyd, Rhyl, over eight by 78½-77½ on referee Harry Warner's card.

Mike Whalley, 128, Manchester, drew with Kevin Pritchard, 129, Liverpool, over eight. Barry Warner, referee.

Debutant Gerry McBride, Manchester, 116, easily outpointed Seamus Tuohey, 118, over six by 59½-58. Tuohey was down twice. Keith Garner, referee.

Taffy Morris, 154, Darlington, outpointed Steve Foster, 156, referee Gardner scoring it 59½-58½ after six. Keith Garner, referee.

Billy Ahearne, 152, Manchester, outpointed George Kerr, Dundee, referee Garner casting it 79-78 after eight. Ahearne was floored in round seven.

(03-06-86)

▶**SOUTHEND—20th Century Sporting Club**—Taffy Morris, 154, Darlington, kayoed Jim Beckett, 146, Woodham Ferrers, in 1:40 of the opening round in a scheduled six twos. Tony Walker, referee.

Debutant Peter Bunting, 182, Southampton, narrowly outpointed Alan Price, also 182, Fishguard, referee Mike Jacobs casting it 59-58½ over six twos. Price was cut near the left eye.

Tony Richards, 136, Leicester, kayoed Andy Smith, 138, Stoke, in 1:46 of round four in a scheduled six twos.

Nicky Day, 139, Southampton, outpointed Les Remekie, 135, Leicester, referee Walker scoring it 59½-58 over six twos.

(03-04-86)

▶**LONDON—London West Hotel**—The bout between Scottish welter champion Steve Watt, and Rocky Kelly, Acton, ended in tragedy. Referee Sid Nathan stopped it in Kelly's favor at 2:07 of the 10th and final round with Watt backed against the ropes, under severe pressure and seemingly having stopped fighting back.

Watt protested at the stoppage, but then collapsed and was taken away on a stretcher. He then went into a coma and, four days later, died in the hospital, having never regained consciousness.

It was expected to be a "survival of the fittest" bout, and that's the way it turned out. Kelly was cut by the left eye and had a swelling around his right eye. Both boxers have large followings, and there was much vocal support in an exciting contest.

Up to the later stages, there could have been little between them, and such was the courage and determination of both men that neither would give ground until Kelly eventually got on top.

Kelly was shattered when the news of Steve's death reached him. He attended the funeral, and actually wrote a poem dedicated to Steve, paying his last respects to a gallant fighter who had given everything he had.

Thankfully, deaths of British boxers in British rings are few and far between. The British Boxing Board of Control will hold an inquiry, but in this case no blame can be attached to anyone. It was an occupational hazard, but nevertheless a terrible tragedy, and condolences from everyone connected with the fight game go to the parents and relatives.

Obviously, the Board of Control will strive to tighten up the medical aspects even more, yet it is difficult to see what more can be done. The British medical system for boxers is already the best in the world.

It was inevitable that the anti-boxing brigade would again step on the band wagon in an attempt to outlaw the sport. It is equally inevitable that if this were to become law, *Fighting* would go underground. There would be shows in venues which would remain secret to beat the law, and where the medical system would probably leave a lot to be desired. Tragedies could then be expected to be far more frequent.

Steve's family gave their permission for his heart, liver, and kidneys to be used for transplants.

On the supporting card, All Ireland light heavyweight champion Harry Cowap, 169¾, Balham, confirmed a previous win by outpointing Welshman Winston Burnett, 167, over eight twos, referee Nathan scoring it 80-77½, indicating Cowap hadn't lost a round.

Terry Brooks, 155¼, Hackney, stopped Julian Monville, 155½, Nackney, referee Reg Thompson intervening at 1:57 of round six in a scheduled eight twos after Monville had been down from a left hook to the head.

Frank Graham, 148¼, Alfreton, stopped Trevor Hopson, Billericay, referee Thompson calling a halt when Hopson was cut near the left eye.

Glen Dainty, 124½, Canvey Island, outpointed sub Young Garskey, also 124½, Glasgow, referee Thompson casting it 59½-58 after six twos.

Because of the outcome of the Kelly-Watt fight, the last bout on the bill was cancelled.

(03-13-86)

▶**BIRMINGHAM—Arden Sporting Club**—Alan Baptiste, 163, Luton, was down in round three, but came back to stop Tony Meszaros, 162, Birmingham, referee Paul Thomas intervening at 0:57 of round five in a scheduled eight with Meszaros under pressure.

Gary Somerville, 158, Birmingham, stopped Gary Williams, 154, Doncaster, referee John Keane calling a halt at 0:53 of round four in a scheduled six after Williams had gone through the ropes.

Dean Murray, 147, Birmingham, kayoed Geoff Calder, 144, Kidderminster, referee Keane counting out Calder at 1:00 of round three in a scheduled six twos.

Tommy Taylor, 175, Hednesford, beat Dennis Hogan, 171, Cork, who was retired by his corner at the end of round four in a scheduled six twos after being floored in round three. Paul Thomas, referee.

Stuart Fishermac, 118, Luton, narrowly outpointed Gary Peynado, 120, Nechells, referee Keane casting it 59-58½ after six twos.

(03-17-86)

▶**ALFRETON—Leisure Centre**—Central Area welter champ Tony Brown, 147½, Liverpool, produced a fine performance to outpoint former British titleholder Kostas Petrou, 147, Birmingham, referee Jim Pridding scoring it 79-78 after eight. This avenged a previous defeat.

Brian Schumacher, 177½, stopped Blaine Longsden, 177, Warrington, referee Pridding intervening at 1:10 of round two in a scheduled six twos after Longsden had been down twice.

Denys Cronin, 161, Caerphilly, stopped sub Taffy Morris, 160½, Darlington, referee Pridding calling a halt at 1:31 of round four in a scheduled six, with Morris under pressure.

Debutant John Ashton, 154½, Alfreton, kayoed Steve Yorath, Cardiff, 157, referee Terry O'Connor counting him out at 0:38 of round three. A right hand did the trick, and it needed a couple of minutes for him to recover.

Paul Timmons, 129¾, Alfreton, stopped Mark Broome, 133¾, Grimsby, referee O'Connor calling a halt at 1:25 of the sixth and final two-minute round with Broome a weary man.

Debutant Ray Goulding, 148, Alfreton, won every round in outpointing Elvis Morton, 151½, referee O'Connor casting it 60-57 after six twos.

(03-13-86)

▶**STOKE—Trentham Gardens**—Abner Blackstock, 180, kayoed Dennis Bailey, also 180, Kettering, referee Frank Parkes counting out Bailey in round two. A left hook did the trick.

Darren Bowen, 144, West Bromwich, outpointed Tyrell Wilson, Newport, also 144, referee Brian Arnott scoring it a narrow 59-58½ after six.

John Daly, 138, Northampton, outpointed sub Geoff Calder, 139, Kidderminster, referee Parkes casting it 59½-58 after six. Calder was down in round two.

Paddy Maguire, 118, Birmingham, didn't lose a round in outpointing Dave Mallaby, 119, Doncaster, referee Arnott scoring it 60-58 after six.

Malcolm Davies, 150, Shrewsbury, outpointed Glyn Davis, 152, Doncaster, referee Arnott again showing a scoreline of 60-58 after six.

(03-12-86)

▶**NORWICH—Lads Club**—In the first professional show in Norwich in four years, local boxers were successful in five out of six bouts.

Gypsy George Carman, 192, Wisbech, outpointed Mick Cawdon, 206, Doncaster referee Sid Nathan scoring it 79½-78½ after eight.

Paul Gamble, 170, Norwich, outpointed Cliff Curtis, 168, Swindon, scoreline 59½-58½ after six.

Gary Champion, 146, Wymondham, was down in the opening round, but came back strongly to stop Dave Heaver, 155, Doncaster, referee Nick White calling a halt at 2:31 of round two in a scheduled six with Heaver under pressure.

Wayne Goult, Wisbech, 142½, stopped Darren Cunningham, 140, Bradford, at 1:43 of the opening round in a scheduled six.

Eamonn Payne, 142, Kings Lynn, won every round in outpoint-

ing Rocky Lester, 140, Leicester, referee White casting it 40-38 after four.

Only visitor to win was Eddie King, 148, Doncaster, who beat Micky Betts, Norwich, 144, the bout being stopped at 0:27 of round four in a scheduled six when Betts was cut by the left eye.
(03-15-86)

▶**RHYL—Ffordd Las Social Club**—Geoff Pegler, 147, Swansea, won the vacant Welsh welterweight crown by stopping Rocky Feliciello, also 147, Rhyl, referee Adrian Morgan intervening at 1:53 of round seven in a scheduled 10. Rocky was handicapped by a cut around the left eye, and was down in round three.

John Drummond, 125, Rhyl, stopped Johnny Mack, 122, Liverpool, the bout being halted at 0:42 of the sixth and final round with Mack under pressure.
(03-14-86)

▶**GLASGOW—St. Andrews Sporting Club**—Franki Moro, 155, Liverpool, narrowly outpointed sub Graeme Ahmed, 158½, referee Len Mullen scoring it 78½-78 after eight.

Paul Downie, 132, kayoed Dean Bramhald, also 132, referee Danny McCafferty counting out Bramhald in round five of a scheduled eight twos. Final punch was a right cross.

Jamie McBride, 119¾, Glasgow, outpointed Chris Clarkson, 120½, Hull, referee Danny McCafferty scoring it 40-38 after four twos, indicating McBride had won every round.

The patrons observed a minute's silence for the late Steve Watt.
(03-17-86)

RON OLVER

AFRICA

BOPHUTHATSWANA

▶**SUN CITY—Super Bowl**—Harold Volbrecht consolidating his position as the WBA's second ranked welterweight, won a unanimous decision over Carlos Trujillo, the 10th ranked contender, after 10 rounds of boxing in front of a near capacity crowd.

Former WBA junior heavyweight champion Piet Crous won a shutout 10-round unanimous decision over Tomas Polo of Colombia. This was Crous' first fight since he lost his title to Muhammad Qawi.

South African junior lightweight champion Brian Mitchell knocked out Julio Ruiz of Panama in round six.

Arthur Mayisella kayoed Panamanian Pedro Avila in the fifth round, welters.
(03-01-86)

SOUTH AFRICA

CAPE

▶**PORT ELIZABETH**—Young Welcome Ncita upset the form book when he outboxed the more experienced Johannes (Baby Joe) Miya to win the South African flyweight title, 12.
(03-15-86)

TRANSVAAL

▶**JOHANNESBURG**—Thulane (Sugar Boy) Malinga retained his South African middleweight title by stopping challenger Pieter De Bruin in the eighth round.

Charles Oosthuizen retained his Transvaal junior middleweight title with a unanimous decision over Matthias Mbatha, 10.
(03-08-86)

▶**JOHANNESBURG**—A rather tense and nervous Sakkie Horn climbed off the canvas in the first round to win the South African light heavyweight title with a split decision over Sakkie Enslin, 12.
(03-12-86)

RON JACKSON

READ THE RING

PAN PACIFIC

AUSTRALIA

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

▶**PERTH—Function Centre**—Lou Cafaro, 159¼, held his Australian middleweight title with a third round K.O. over Chad Hill, 160, and it was a whale of a fight while it lasted. The two went at it as though there was to be no tomorrow before Cafaro, with a fraction of a second remaining in round two, landed a solid left rip to the body that doubled Hill like a jack knife. Hill staggered to his corner, still doubled, and referee Laurie Flanders and the doctor took a look. No broken ribs, as was suspected, but Hill could not straighten.

Time passed into round three. Still no sign of Hill fighting on, so Flanders had no alternative but to crown Cafaro winner and still champion. Scheduled for 12 rounds.

In a 10-round support, local Ron Smith, 135½, outpointed Roger Henry, 134¾, N.S.W. Good fight, and close. Referee Bill Ivory scored it even, 96-96, while judges Laurie Flanders and Phil Rowley saw it 98-95 and 97-94, respectively.

Six rounds: Ken Morris, 187¼, kayoed Ray Burwick, 205, in five. Referee: Laurie Flanders. Paul Rush, 132¼, outpointed Dean Colbung, 123¾. Referee: Bill Ivory.

Alan Mosley, 159¼, outpointed Rocky Macri, 161¾, four. Referee: Bill Driffell.

Sam and Mick Bruno promoted. Crowd: about 1,500.
(03-21-86)

▶**KARRATHA**—Only one pro fight, set for 10 rounds. Remainder wre amateurs. Graeme Looker, 148¾, halted John Siriotis, 152, in round eight. Looker won every round and also cut Siriotis's eye. It was at the end of round seven that referee Laurie Flanders went to Siriotis's corner and told him he was well behind, had a cut eye, and could not possibly win. The bell rang for round eight, and Flanders then crowned Looker. Promoter: Paul Bardon.
(04-05-86)

▶**PERTH—Function Centre**—Bill Mordey took his Classic Promotions west from Sydney to Perth (about 2,500 miles), with his star attraction, IBF world bantam champion Jeff Fenech—and if anyone believes that there is a bantam in the world who can beat Fenech, bring him to Australia. Fenech is *the best*. On this occasion, he stacked in against Daniel Zaragoza, the Mexican who held the WBC title for a short period last year.

"He gave me my hardest fight," Fenech said after the 10-round non-title go. Yet Fenech won, 99-89 by judge John Wright, 100-91 by judge Laurie Flanders, and 100-87 according to judge Tony Rok.

Fenech scaled 122¾, Zaragoza 121½. Zaragoza lost a poit, under instruction from referee Paul Moore, for punching low. Zaragoza did this a lot, and was warned several times. Fenech, in reprisal, lifted his head up under Zaragoza's chin on one occasion, an act for which he received a stern warning from Moore. That was in round 10.

Apart from those incidents, the fight was a good one, mostly in the open with few clinches. No knockdowns, but the Mexican was shaken a few times, particularly in round seven.

In the main support over 10 rounds, Australian junior welterweight champion Pat Leglise, 137¾, won by K.O. in four over American Sam Johnson, 139. Leglise floored Johnson twice in round four and Johnson told referee Laurie Flanders, "That will do." Flanders, wanting to tidy it up, counted to 10.

In an eight, Shane Knox, 127¾, gym-mate of Fenech and next Australian champion in his division, scored a fourth round kayo over Mexican Jorge Alvarez, 125¾. Referee: Johnny Wright.

In another eight, W.A. State champion junior welter Tony Jones outpointed Queenslander Percy Israel. Referee: Tony Rok.

Over four, Paul Rush outpointed Dean Colbung. Referee: Bill Ivory.

Crowd: a little under 5,000.
(04-11-86)

VICTORIA

▶**SWAN HILL—Oasis Hotel**—Still waters run deep, they say. That is what happened this night. Undefeated Australian heavyweight champion Dave Russell, 205, defended his title against former amateur champion Dean Waters, 218, N.S.W., who had had only three previous pro fights.

Both are aggressive, but Russell seems to punch harder. Russell was ahead after nine rounds—not by much, but 97-95 and 98-96 on the cards of judges Clive Greedy and John Cauchi, while judge Gus Mercurio had it 96-96. Then, *bingo*! Waters pulled one out of the air and down went Russell. He beat the 10, but was so far gone that referee Johnny Wheeler stopped the fight. New champion: Dean Waters.

In a 10-round support, Flash Chisango, campaigning here from Zimbabwe, halted South Australian Kevin Barry in round eight. Chisango, 183, was a shade ahead at the end of round seven; then, in round eight, Barry, 229¼, received a severely gashed cheek and a swollen eye. Referee Gus Mercurio stopped it and crowned Chisango.

Eight rounds: Attila Fogas, 150, outpointed Paul Maugher, 156½, in a good fight. Referee: Johnny Wheeler.

Three rounds: Shane Stevens, 127¾, outpointed Kerry Packer, also 127¾. Referee: Tony Parisi. Promoted by Graeme Collings.
(03-15-86)

▶**GEELONG—Skateland**—Nick Hatzil, 140, outpointed Paul Delosa, 138½, over 10 rounds for the vacant Victoria State junior welter title. Johnny Wheeler refereed.

Six rounds: Kevin Hargraves, 171½, K.O. 3 Mike Balliro, 180¾.

Four rounds: Antoine Daltymple, 138¾, outpointed Colin Smith, 145½. Graeme McKenzie, 145½, outpointed Shane Kellet, 146½.

Three rounds: Kerry Packer, 128, outpointed Wayne Dayle, 125¾. Promoter was Philip Salmon.
(03-21-86)

▶**TULLAMARINE—Melrose Reception Centre**—Lester Ellis was not in retirement long—only about three months. He came back with a bang to K.O. 8 Rafael Solis of Puerto Rico. Ellis scaled 132¼, Solis 132¼. Ellis boxed well within himself, then opened up and decked Solis. Referee Malcolm Bulner counted out Solis 49 seconds into the round. Ellis held a points lead at the end of round seven, but not by much.

In a 10-round support Paul James, 161, outpointed Joe Nitiva, 167½. Referee: Johnny Wheeler.

Eight rounds: Dave Ramsden, 143¼, outpointed Larry Moni, 152¼. REferee: Tony Parisi. Promoted by Cos Sita with his Superstar Promotions. This was the first promotion of pro boxing at Tullamarine.
(03-27-86)

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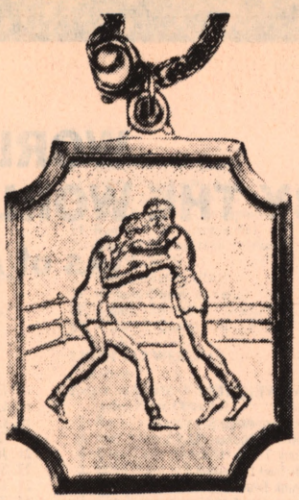

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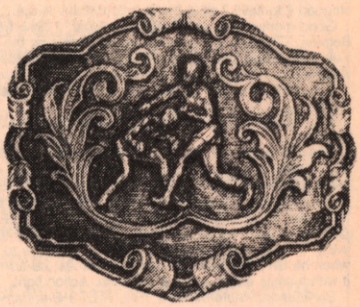

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NEW SOUTH WALES

▶**LEUMEAH—Orana Park Oval**—In an open-air show on a beautiful night, Wally Carr, 171¾, defended his Australian light heavyweight title against OPBF champion Garry Hubble, 175. It was Carr's 99th fight. He had also signed to make his 100th a title defense, that one against Doug Sam at Canberra on April 18—providing he defeated Hubble. It did not work out that way. Hubble was far too good. Wally seems to have lost almost everything—except his sense of humor.

For example, one of his fans called out: "Hit him with your right on his jaw, Wal." Carr moved close to Hubble, clinched, glanced at his supporter and said out loud: "I can't. He won't let me."

After eight rounds, with Hubble about seven points ahead, Wally realized he could not win. In round nine he butted Hubble and was disqualified by referee John Cauchi.

In the main support over 10 rounds, Paul Toweel, 157, K.O. 6 Phil Kating, 159½, Vanuatu. Good fight, with Toweel ahead on points but no certainty, when Toweel unleashed a couple of solid blows. Kating went down. When he rose he said, "That'll do." Referee Billy Males stopped it and crowned Toweel. Later examination revealed Katin's jaw was fractured. Kating lost his South Pacific middleweight title in this fight.

Toweel was to have met Ken Salisbury for Salisbury's Australian junior middleweight title on this bill, but Ken had a car accident and suffered whiplash to his neck. His neck is in a brace.

Eight rounds: Brian Fitzsimmons, 187½, outpointed Tony Porrata, 168¾. Referee: Jack Thompson. Disco George, 139½, made a comeback and K.O. 4 Jimmy Henry, 132¼. Referee: Billy Males.

Six rounds: Mark Vallance, 146, K.O. 4 Nemani Rakadi, 150. Referee: John Cauchi.

Promoter: Michael Toweel.
(03-22-86)

▶**CRONULLA—Labor & Workingmen's Club**—Rudy Darno, 206, is a lad we have been watching for awhile. He is being brought along quietly by trainer Bernie Hall, and in my view he is just ready to step into the ring with new Australian champion Dean Waters. On this night at this club he stopped big Larry Tattoo, 266 pounds, in round nine. He methodically thumped Larry to the body. Tattoo aged considerably in this fight though he did not go down. Early in round nine, referee Mick Dunningham stopped it to save Tattoo being tattooed any longer.

Good eight-rounder in which Rick Kulu, 176¾, halted John Bogolin, 170, in round seven, a cut eye bringing the stoppage. Kulu was ahead. Bogolin took two counts, one on the floor, one standing, but Bogolin gave good value—as he always does.

Six rounds: Tommy Woods, 147, outpointed Mohammad Ali, 140¾.

Four rounds: Andrew Fisher, 208, outpointed Wally Keaster, 189½.

The club promoted, with Ken Pedlar the driving light.
(03-27-86)

▶**MARRICKVILLE—RSL Club**—Tommy Robert, 156½, gave a good display of class boxing and snappy punching to outpoint Fijian Joe Knight, 161¾, 10. As referee, I carded 99-90. Judge Des Bloyd and Ray Wheatley had 98-93 and 100-92, respectively. Knight is a courageous fighter who loves to fight, and when he is hit with a solid salvo of punches, he acknowledges it with a smile and a wave of his hand. Action fight.

Six rounder: Matereti Valu, 178, K.O. 3 Brendan Dempsey, 173 (referee Mitchell stopped contest to save Dempsey). Dave Bell, 141½, outpointed Disco George, 135¼, by a comfortable margin. Ray Wheatley refereed.

Three rounds: Vic Hallett, 135, outpointed Tiger Smith, 152.

Promoted by Bill Laws.
(04-10-86)

▶**CASTLE HILL—RSL Club**—Darwin North, 151, drew with Les Mathers, 153¼, in the 10-round main-event. Good bout with fortunes see-sawing. Billy Males refereed.

Six rounds: Charlie Lewis, 134½, outpointed newcomer Simon Maidment, 133½. Robert Newton, 151, stopped Ian Landkauf, 157¾, in two. Referee John Cauchi stopped it to save Landkauf, who was being battered and who also had a cut eye.

Four rounds: Shane Tawhi, 136¾, outpointed Ken Jenkins, 134½. Paul McKenzie, 125¾, outpointed Mario Crisafulli, 129. Frank Axisa promoted.
(04-12-86)

QUEENSLAND

▶**BRISBANE—Festival Hall**—Unbeaten Mark Janssen, 154, won his 10-rounder with veteran Fijian Sakaraia Ve, 155½. Two judges had Janssen winning, 98-93, which is fairly wide, but the other had Ve winning, 96-95. Many in the crowd disputed the decision. Referee: Alan Moore.

In a 10-round support, former middleweight champion of Australia Emmanuel Otti, 171, outpointed Matereti Valu, 177. Close. Referee: Alan Moore.

Eight rounds: Tom West, 176, K.O. 2 Fijian Kameli Naivalu, 173. Referee: Alan Moore. Percy Israel, 141, K.O. Danny Davies, 144. Referee: Cyril Cairns.

Six rounds: Stewart Hartley, 135, outpointed Cyclone George, also 135, in a hectic battle. Rick Thornberry, 158, K.O. 3 Ashley Byrnes, also 158.

Four rounds: Tony Nobbs, 147, outpointed Graham Fay, also 147.

Promoter: Reg Layton.
(03-17-86)

RAY MITCHELL

WORLD RATINGS BY THE WORLD BOXING COUNCIL

(As of April 16, 1986)

HEAVYWEIGHTS
Champion
Trevor Berbick (U.S.)
1. Pinklon Thomas (U.S.)
2. Tony Tubbs (U.S.)
3. Michael Dokes (U.S.)
4. Frank Bruno (Great Britain)
5. James Smith (U.S.)
6. Mike Weaver (U.S.)
7. Mitchell Green (U.S.)
8. Mike Tyson (U.S.)
9. Eddie Gregg (U.S.)
10. David Bey (U.S.)
11. Marvis Frazier (U.S.)
12. Carl Williams (U.S.)
13. James Broad (U.S.)
14. Tony Tucker (U.S.)
15. Jesse Douglas (U.S.)
16. Tyrell Biggs (U.S.)
17. Jose Ribalta (U.S.)
18. Jeff Sims (U.S.)
19. Jesse Ferguson (U.S.)
20. Greg Page (U.S.)
21. Horace Notice (Great Britain)
22. George Chaplin (U.S.)
23. Walter Daniel Falconi (Argentina)
24. Larry Alexander (U.S.)
25. Anders Eklund (Sweden)
26. Steffen Tangstad (Norway)
27. Hughroy Currie (Great Britain)
28. James (Quick) Tillis (U.S.)
29. Proud Kilimanjaro (Zimbabwe)
30. Francesco Damiani (Italy)

CRUISERWEIGHTS
Champion
Carlos DeLeon (Puerto Rico)
1. Bernard Benton (U.S.)
2. Alfonzo Ratliff (U.S.)
3. Evander Holyfield (U.S.)
4. Ricky Parkey (U.S.)
5. Michael Greer (U.S.)
6. Boone Pultz (U.S.)
7. John Odhiambo (Uganda)
8. Henry Tillman (U.S.)
9. Dorcy Gaymon (U.S.)
10. Bashiru Ali (Nigeria)
11. Osvaldo Ocasio (Puerto Rico)
12. Stanley Ross (U.S.)
13. Leon Spinks (U.S.)
14. Curtis Isaac (U.S.)
15. Chisanda Mutti (Zambia)
16. Anthony Davis (U.S.)
17. Sammy Reeson (Great Britain)
18. Ralf Rocchigiani (Germany)
19. Bert Cooper (Great Britain)
20. Jose Maria Flores (Uruguay)
21. Toni Fulilangi (Tonga)
22. David Russell (Australia)
23. Uriah Grant (U.S.)
24. Michael Arms (U.S.)
25. Cedric Parsons (Canada)
26. Spencer Chavis (U.S.)
27. Daniel Neto (Argentina)
28. Angelo Musone (Italy)
29. Kevin Wagstaff (Australia)
30. Hector Rohr (Argentina)

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
Champion
J.B. Williamson (U.S.)
1. Jean-Marie Emebe (Cameroon)
2. Eddie Davis (U.S.)
3. Prince Mama Mohammad (Ghana)
4. Willie Edwards (U.S.)
5. Alex Blanchard (Netherlands)
6. Leslie Stewart (Trinidad)
7. Eddie Mustafa Muhammad (U.S.)
8. Dennis Andries (Great Britain)
9. Bobby Czyz (U.S.)
10. Jorge Salgado (Argentina)
11. Don LaLonde (Canada)
12. Juan D. Roldan (Argentina)
13. Richard Caramanolis (France)
14. David Sears (U.S.)
15. Everett Martin (U.S.)
16. Lotte Mwale (Zambia)
17. Fulgencio Obelmejias (Venezuela)
18. Lawrence (Poncho) Carter (U.S.)
19. Charles Williams (U.S.)
20. Grady Smith (U.S.)
21. Jim MacDonald (U.S.)
22. Tim Broady (U.S.)
23. Kelvin Kelly (U.S.)
24. Tony Witherspoon (U.S.)
25. Rufino Angulo (France)
26. Murray Sutherland (U.S.)
27. Joe Lasisi (Nigeria)
28. James Salerno (U.S.)
29. Marvin Mack (U.S.)
30. Nestor Giovannini (Argentina)

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Champion
Marvin Hagler (U.S.)
1. James Kinchen (U.S.)
2. Herol Graham (Great Britain)
3. Donald Lee (U.S.)
4. Mark Kaylor (Great Britain)
5. Robbie Sims (U.S.)
6. Lindell Holmes (U.S.)
7. Mark Kaylor (repetition)?
8. Tony Sibson (Great Britain)
9. Sumbu Kalambay (Zaire)
10. Ayub Kalule (Denmark)
11. Doug DeWitt (U.S.)
12. Mustafa Hamsho (U.S.)
13. Roberto Duran (U.S.)
14. John Collins (U.S.)
15. Curtis Parker (U.S.)
16. Iran Barkley (U.S.)
17. Mike Tinley (U.S.)
18. Alex Ramos (U.S.)
19. Errol Christie (Great Britain)
20. Charlie Boston (U.S.)
21. Michael Nunn (U.S.)
22. Roberto Ruiz (Argentina)
23. Kevin Watts (U.S.)
24. Dwight Davison (U.S.)
25. Carl Jones (U.S.)
26. Frank Winterstein (France)
27. Luigi Minchillo (Italy)
28. Tony Thornton (U.S.)
29. Gaetano Ardito (Italy)
30. Dwight Walker (U.S.)

SUPER WELTERWEIGHTS
Champion
Thomas Hearns (U.S.)
1. John Mugabi (Uganda)
2. Julian Jackson (Virgin Islands)
3. Matthew Hilton (Canada)
4. Duane Thomas (U.S.)
5. In-Chul Baek (Korea)
6. Buster Drayton (U.S.)
7. Mark Medal (U.S.)
8. Milton McCrory (U.S.)
9. David Braxton (U.S.)
10. Troy Darrell (U.S.)
11. Darnell Knox (U.S.)
12. Fred Hutchings (U.S.)
13. Lupe Aquino (U.S.)
14. Francisco DeJesus (Brazil)
15. Ramon Ramos (Argentina)
16. John Munduga (Uganda)
17. Davey Moore (U.S.)
18. James Green (U.S.)
19. Robert Hines (U.S.)
20. Saad Skouma (France)
21. Brian Muller (Guyana)
22. Adam George (U.S.)
23. Chris Pyatt (Great Britain)
24. Miguel Angel Arroyo (Argentina)
25. Gae-Hyung Yuh (Korea)
26. Hugo Marinangeli (Argentina)
27. Roman George (U.S.)
28. Nick Wilshire (Great Britain)
29. Carlos Elliott (Japan)
30. David Noel (Trinidad)

WELTERWEIGHTS
Champion
Donald Curry (U.S.)
1. Horace Shufford (U.S.)
2. Tommy Ayers (U.S.)
3. Lloyd Honeyghan (Great Britain)
4. Marlon Starling (U.S.)
5. Jun-Sok Hwang (Korea)
6. Johnny Bumphus (U.S.)
7. Maurice Blocker (U.S.)
8. Seung-Soon Lee (Korea)
9. David Hilton (Canada)
10. Mark Breland (U.S.)
11. Sylvester Mittee (Great Britain)
12. Simon Brown (U.S.)
13. Judas Clottey (Ghana)
14. Eduardo Batista (Dom. Rep.)
15. Tyrone Trice (U.S.)
16. Darryl Anthony (U.S.)
17. Troy Wortham (U.S.)
18. Gianfranco Rosi (Italy)
19. Manning Galloway (U.S.)
20. Brian Janssen (Australia)
21. Shawn O'Sullivan (Canada)
22. Mike Picciotti (U.S.)
23. Carlos Prieto (Argentina)
24. Diomedes Colome (Dom. Rep.)
25. Marcello DiCrocce (Argentina)
26. Rigoberto Lopez (U.S.)
27. Colin Jones (Great Britain)
28. Herman Montes (U.S.)
29. Ramon Abeldano (Argentina)
30. Eduardo Rodriguez (Panama)

SUPER LIGHTWEIGHTS
Champion
Lonnie Smith (U.S.)
1. Rene Arredondo (Mexico)
2. Ronnie Shields (U.S.)
3. Rodolfo Gonzalez (Mexico)
4. Kyung-Duk Ahn (Korea)
5. James (Buddy) McGirt (U.S.)
6. Gary Hinton (U.S.)
7. Ubaldo Sacco (Argentina)
8. Joe Louis Manley (U.S.)
9. Terry Marsh (Great Britain)
10. Hugo Hernandez (Argentina)
11. Tomas Molinares (Colombia)
12. Howard Davis, Jr. (U.S.)
13. Frankie Warren (U.S.)
14. Reyes Cruz (Dominican Rep.)
15. Gene Hatcher (U.S.)
16. Eung-Shik Kim (Korea)
17. Harold Brazier (U.S.)
18. Saoul Mamby (U.S.)
19. Juan M. Coggi (Argentina)
20. Ramon Jara (Argentina)
21. Ricky Young (U.S.)
22. Sang-Ho Lee (Korea)
23. Aquilino Asprilla (Panama)
24. Allan Allegria (Philippines)
25. Ildemar Paisan (Venezuela)
26. John Meekins (U.S.)
27. Lorenzo Garcia (Argentina)
28. Darryl Fuller (U.S.)
29. Mitchell Julien (U.S.)
30. Rodolfo Aguilar (Panama)

LIGHTWEIGHTS
Champion
Hector Camacho (Puerto Rico)
1. Edwin Rosario (Puerto Rico)
2. Jose Luis Ramirez (Mexico)
3. Cornelius Boza-Edwards (Uganda)
4. Tsuyoshi Hamada (Japan)
5. Sergio Zambrano (Mexico)
6. Darryl Tyson (U.S.)
7. Cubanito Perez (U.S.)
8. Jesus Romero (Argentina)
9. Tyrone Crawley (U.S.)
10. Nelson Bolanos (Ecuador)
11. Terrence Alli (Guyana)
12. Miguel Santana (Puerto Rico)
13. Pernell Whitaker (U.S.)
14. Juan Nazario (Puerto Rico)
15. Sammy Fuentes (Puerto Rico)
16. Frankie Randall (U.S.)
17. John Montes (U.S.)
18. Roger Mayweather (U.S.)
19. Gert Bo Jacobsen (Denmark)
20. Greg Haugen (U.S.)

21. Meldrick Taylor (U.S.)
22. Rene Weller (Germany)
23. Dale Artango (Australia)
24. Primo Ramos (Mexico)
25. Fred Pendleton (U.S.)
26. Roque Montoya (Mexico)
27. Rafael Williams (Panama)
28. Andres Sandoval (Mexico)
29. Sam Ago Kotey (Ghana)
30. Orlando Romero (Peru)

SUPER FEATHERWEIGHTS
Champion
Julio Cesar Chavez (Mexico)
1. Francisco Tomas Cruz (Brazil)
2. Rocky Lockridge (U.S.)
3. Mario Martinez (Mexico)
4. Johnny de la Rosa (Dom. Rep.)
5. Dwight Pratchett (U.S.)
6. Sung-Yun Kim (Korea)
7. Jean Marc Renard (Belgium)
8. Manuel Batista (Dom. Rep.)
9. Juan LaPorte (Puerto Rico)
10. Daniel Londas (France)
11. Lester Ellis (Australia)
12. Oscar Bejines (Mexico)
13. Eusebio Pedroza (Panama)
14. Pat Cowdell (Great Britain)
15. Chung-Wun Chung (Korea)
16. Raphe Sims (U.S.)
17. John Sichula (Zambia)
18. Francisco Fernandez (Panama)
19. Kamel Bou Ali (Tunisia)
20. Mark Fernandez (U.S.)
21. Vinnie Costello (U.S.)
22. Faustino Barrios (Argentina)
23. Rod Sequenan (Philippines)
24. Mario Miranda (Colombia)
25. Kenny Baysmore (U.S.)
26. Rey Estades (U.S.)
27. Anthony English (U.S.)
28. Tony Miller (Australia)
29. Pedro Gutierrez (Argentina)
30. Julio Llerena (Colombia)

FEATHERWEIGHTS
Champion
Azumah Nelson (Ghana)
1. Marcos Villasana (Mexico)
2. Fernando Sosa (Argentina)
3. Calvin Grove (U.S.)
4. Jackie Beard (U.S.)
5. Antonio Esparragoza (Venez.)
6. Bernard Taylor (U.S.)
7. Richard Savage (U.S.)
8. Roger Arevalo (Mexico)
9. Refugio Rojas (U.S.)
10. Jose Mario Lopez (Argentina)
11. Jose Marmolejo (Panama)
12. Tyrone Downes (Trinidad)
13. Hector Lopez (Mexico)
14. Javier Marquez (Mexico)
15. Lupe Suarez (U.S.)
16. Antonio Rivera (Puerto Rico)
17. Danilo Cabrera (Dom. Rep.)
18. Baby Joe Ruelas (U.S.)
19. Min-Keun Oh (Korea)
20. Steve Cruz (U.S.)
21. Osmar Avila (Argentina)
22. Adrian Arreola (U.S.)
23. Tommy Cordova (U.S.)
24. Jim McDonnell (Great Britain)
25. Mitsuro Sugiya (Japan)
26. Dana Roston (U.S.)
27. Byung-Soo Park (Korea)
28. Tyrone Jackson (U.S.)
29. Angel Mayor (Venezuela)
30. Salvatore Bottiglieri (Italy)

SUPER BANTAMWEIGHTS
Champion
Guadalupe Pintor
1. Juan (Kid) Meza (Mexico)
2. Seung-Hoon Lee (Korea)
3. Ramon Dominguez (Argentina)
4. Julian Solis (Puerto Rico)
5. Daniel Blanco (Colombia)
6. Mike Ayala (U.S.)
7. Tommy Valoy (Dominican Rep.)
8. Yun-Kap Choi (Korea)
9. Jaime Garza (U.S.)
10. Alberto Mercado (Puerto Rico)
11. Valerio Nati (Italy)
12. Harold Petty (U.S.)
13. James Pipps (U.S.)
14. Jesus Salud (U.S.)
15. Loris Stecca (Italy)
16. Johnny Carter (U.S.)
17. George Garcia (U.S.)
18. Aaron Lopez (U.S.)
19. Louie Espinoza (U.S.)
20. Bernardo Pinango (Venezuela)
21. Takuya Muguruma (Japan)
22. Oscar Muniz (U.S.)
23. Eusebio Espinal (Dom. Rep.)
24. Mauro Gutierrez (Mexico)
25. Rudy Casicas (Philippines)
26. Jose Meneses (Panama)
27. Prayurasak Muangsurin (Thailand)
28. Ruben Decima (Argentina)
29. Ruben Dario Palacios (Colombia)
30. Hyun-Jae Hwang (Korea)

BANTAMWEIGHTS
Champion
Miguel Lora (Colombia)
1. Albert Davila (U.S.)
2. Enrique Sanchez (Dominican Rep.)
3. Greg Richardson (U.S.)
4. Chan-Young Park (Korea)
5. Wilfredo Vasquez (Puerto Rico)
6. Hurley Snead (U.S.)
7. Ki-Youl Kang (Korea)
8. Azael Moran (Panama)
9. Antoine Montero (France)
10. Daniel Zaragoza (Mexico)
11. Lucio Lopez (Argentina)
12. Rocky Chitalada (Thailand)
13. Jerome Coffee (U.S.)
14. Freddie Jackson (U.S.)
15. Cardenio Ulloa (Chile)
16. Ciro de Leva (Italy)
17. Raul Perez (Mexico)
18. Kelvin Seabrooks (U.S.)
19. James Manning (U.S.)
20. Sam David (U.S.)
21. Edgar Roman (Venezuela)
22. Jorge Ramirez (Mexico)
23. Frankie Duarte (Mexico)
24. Ray Minus (Bahamas)
25. Ernie Cataluna (Philippines)
26. Antonio Picardi (Italy)
27. Matsuo Imazato (Japan)
28. Changuito Carmona (Mexico)
29. Steve McCrory (U.S.)
30. Fernando Beltran (Mexico)

SUPER FLYWEIGHTS
Champion
1. Jiro Watanabe (Japan)
2. Frank Cedeno (Philippines)
3. Israel Contreras (Venezuela)
4. Dong-Chun Lee (Korea)
5. Kongtoranee Payakaroon (Thailand)
6. Ruben Condori (Argentina)
7. Santos Laciar (Argentina)
8. Sugar Baby Rojas (Colombia)
9. Edgar Monserrat (Panama)
10. Juan Polo Perez (Colombia)
11. Juan Carazo (Puerto Rico)
12. Gustavo Ballas (Argentina)
13. Raul Diaz (Colombia)
14. Elly Pical (Indonesia)
15. Tadashi Maruo (Japan)
16. Eudo Bermudez (Venezuela)
17. Mike Moreno (U.S.)
18. Julio Soto Solano (Dom. Rep.)
19. Pitchgam Chuvatana (Thailand)
20. Oscar Bolivar (Venezuela)
21. Miguel Perez (Colombia)
22. Jose Chacon (Panama)
23. Francisco Alvarez (Colombia)
24. Antonio Avelar (Mexico)
25. Ruben de la Cruz (Philippines)
26. Kazuo Katsuma (Japan)
27. Juan Carlos Cortes (Argentina)
28. Tae-Il Chang (Korea)
29. Surasith Meeprasert (Thailand)
30. Jung-Sok Hwan (Korea)

FLYWEIGHTS
Champion
Sot Chitalada (Thailand)
1. Gabriel Bernal (Mexico)
2. Hi-Sup Shin (Korea)
3. Juan Herrera (Mexico)
4. Bi-Wong Chung (Korea)
5. Rae-Ki Ahn (Korea)
6. Alberto Castro (Colombia)
7. Fidel Bassa (Colombia)
8. Javier Lucas (Mexico)
9. Freddie Castillo (Mexico)
10. Rafael Caban (Puerto Rico)
11. Paul Gonzales (U.S.)
12. Charlie Magri (Great Britain)
13. Hideaki Kamishiro (Japan)
14. Jimmy Fernandez (Mexico)
15. Rafael Cabrera (Dom. Rep.)
16. Adrian Roman (Argentina)
17. Stephen Muchoki (Kenya)
18. Rodolfo Alvarado (Mexico)
19. Yoshiaki Uchida (Japan)
20. Claudemir Dias (Brazil)
21. Soon-Chun Kwon (Korea)
22. Emilio Santos (Mexico)
23. Rene Busayong (Philippines)
24. Ramon Albers (Argentina)
25. Duke McKenzie (Great Britain)
26. Ray Medel (U.S.)
27. Franco Cherchi (Italy)
28. Richard Clarke (Jamaica)
29. Alonzo (Strongbow) Gonzalez (U.S.)
30. Francisco Quiroz (Dom. Rep.)

LIGHT FLYWEIGHTS
Champion
Jung-Koo Chang (Korea)
1. Isidro Perez (Mexico)
2. Rodolfo Blanco (Colombia)
3. Joey Olivo (U.S.)
4. Jorge Cano (Mexico)
5. Efren Pinto (Mexico)
6. Benedicto Murillo (Panama)
7. Cho-Woon Park (Korea)
8. Mario DeMarco (Argentina)
9. Francisco Montiel (Mexico)
10. Virgilio Chifundo (Panama)
11. Tomohiro Kiyuna (Japan)
12. German Torres (Mexico)
13. Agustin Garcia (Colombia)
14. Reinaldo Becerra (Venezuela)
15. Kong-Son Oh (Korea)
16. Ruben Padilla (Mexico)
17. Hideyuki Ohashi (Japan)
18. Moon-Jin Choi (Korea)
19. Ray Thompson (Panama)
20. Hermogenes Murillo (Panama)
21. Chun Huh (Korea)
22. Amado Ursua (Mexico)
23. Babe Luis (Mexico)
24. Little Baguio (Philippines)
25. Mahasamuk Sisnarupon (Thailand)
26. Memo Flores (Mexico)
27. Kyung-Jae Chae (Korea)
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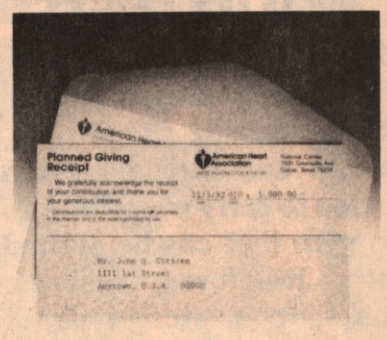

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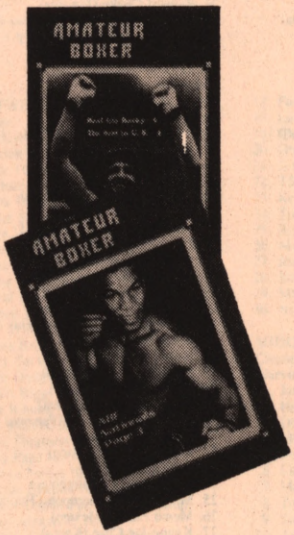

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WORLDWIDE FIGHT RESULTS

HEAVYWEIGHTS
Michael Spinks W15 Larry Holmes (Retained World Title)
Buster Douglas W8 David Jaco
Mike Tyson W10 James Tillis
James Broad KO5 Bobby Crabtree
Larry Alexander KO1 Tom Trimm
Larry Alexander KO2 Stan Ward
Clarence Hill W8 Terry Mims
Horace Notice KO6 Hughroy Currie (Won British and Commonwealth Titles)
John Tate KO1 Steven Eisenbarth

CRUISERWEIGHTS
Lee Roy Murphy KO9 Dorcey Gaymon (Retained IBF Title)
Henry Tillman KO1 Bashiru Ali (Won NABF Title)
Evander Holyfield KO3 Jesse Shelby
Bert Cooper KO10 Oscar Holman

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
Dennis Andries W12 J.B. Williamson (Won WBC Title)
Eddie Davis W10 Kelvin Kelly
Grady Smith W10 Jim MacDonald
Charles Williams KO3 Arthel Lawhorne
Vaughn Hooks W8 Mike Fisher
Tom Collins KO3 Yawe Davis
Noe Cruciani W8 Ian Lazarus
Mike Costello KO8 Jimmy Smith
Blaine Logsden KO3 Jimmy Ellis
Leslie Stewart W8 Uriah Grant

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Chong-Pal Park KO15 Vinnie Curto (Retained IBF Super Middle Title)
Frank Tate KO6 Ricky Stackhouse
Doug DeWitt W10 Charlie Boston
Kevin Moley W10 Don King
Tony Sibson W10 Luis Rivera
Mark McPherson KO10 Anthony Holt
Richard Burton W10 Jerry Williams
Lindell Holmes KO7 Matt Lewis
Michael Olajide W10 James Green
Roberto Duran KO2 Jorge Suero
Frank Winterstein KO8 Brian Anderson

JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Milton McCrory W10 Keith Adams
Matthew Hilton KO6 Bruce Jackson
Julian Jackson KO2 Poncho del Toro
Judas Clottey W8 Ian Chantler
Sammy Sampson Draw8 John McAllister
Tony Montgomery W8 Pete Seward
Stephon Frost W8 Mike Peoples

WELTERWEIGHTS
George Leach KO4 Vincent Pettway
Mark Breland KO3 Darryl Anthony

PHOTO BY PETE GOLDFIELD

Hot Canadian middleweight Michael Olajide (right) on his way to a 10-round decision over James "Hard Rock" Green in Atlantic City.

Tyrone Trice KO2 Ray Jones
Floyd Peavy KO4 Pedro Vilella
Hugh Kearney W8 Cortez Treadwell
Brian McGinley KO3 Ted Dancy

JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHTS
Gary Hinton W15 Antonio Reyes Cruz (Won Vacant IBF Title)
Terry Marsh W12 Francesco Prezioso (Retained European Title)
Pat Leglise KO4 Sammy Johnson
D.J. Turner KO5 Darryl Richardson
Mickey Ward KO5 Darrell Curtis
Jeff Bumpus Draw10 Bret Summers
Gary Williams KO3 Steve Tempro

LIGHTWEIGHTS
Fred Pendleton W10 Shelton LeBlanc
Felix Gonzalez KO4 Vernon Buchanan
Dwayne Prim KO2 Zack Padilla
Andy Nance KO10 Freddie Roach
Oscar Bejines KO4 Rafael Limon
Andy Williams W10 Mark Pearce (Won Vacant Welsh Title)

JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHTS
Rene Arredondo KO5 Lonnie Smith (Won WBC Super Lightweight Title)
Lester Ellis KO8 Rafael Solis
Johnny de la Rosa KO7 Adrian Arreola (Won Vacant Continental Americas Title)
Dave Savage W10 Paul Downie (Won Vacant Scottish Title)
Pat Cowdell KO6 John Doherty (Won British Title)

FEATHERWEIGHTS
Calvin Grove W10 Pepe Vasquez
Aaron Lopez KO10 Carlos Flores
Shane Knox KO3 Jorge Alvarez
Joe Ruelas W10 Pete Anzaldua

JUNIOR FEATHERWEIGHTS
Jeff Fenech W10 Daniel Zaragoza
Louie Espinoza KO4 Carmelo Negron
James Manning KO2 Jaime Soberanes
Johnny Carter KO5 Ramon Nery

BANTAMWEIGHTS
Paul Gonzales W10 Javier Barajas
Paul Ferreri KO5 Junior Thompson (Retained Commonwealth Title)
Alberto Davila KO9 Francis Childs
Jimmy Navarro KO7 Troy Fletcher
Darryl Thigpen KO4 Gil Davila
Peter Harris KO8 Roy Webb

FLYWEIGHTS
Bi-Wong Chung W15 Chong-Kwan Jung (Won IBF Title)
Jung-Koo Chang W12 German Torres (Retained WBC Light Flyweight Title)
Dave McAuley KO1 Charlie Brown

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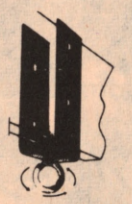

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VETERAN BOXERS BEAT

by CHARLIE SPINA

From left to right: John Tritten, Count Billy Varga, Archie Moore, and Jimmy McLarnin get ready for St. Patrick's Day parade in Los Angeles.

AS USUAL, THE GOLDEN STATE BOXers and Wrestlers Association's float was a big hit with parade viewers at the Los Angeles St. Patrick Day parade. Aboard the float were: former light heavyweight champion and Hall-of-Famer Archie Moore, former wrestling champ Count Billy Varga, and the legendary Jimmy McLarnin. Also along for the ride was Congresswoman Bobbi Fiedler, who is a candidate for the Senate.

Most fans know all about Moore and McLarnin, but Varga is also quite a story. He is a genuine blue blood. His dad, Joe Varga, came from a long line of Hapsberg noblemen. Billy wrestled in three Olympics as an amateur and then went on to have a long pro career. Among the fine matmen he defeated were the legendary Jim Londos and Danny McShain. The win over McShain at the Hollywood Legion Stadium earned Varga the world junior heavyweight title.

Varga became very popular in Hollywood's celebrity set, and his virile appearance earned him a leading role in the movie *Miss Sadie Thompson*, starring Rita Hayworth. Some of Varga's other film credits are: "The Skidrow Slasher," "The Lemondrop Kid," and the TV series "The Real McCoy's."

When his acting career slowed down, he returned to wrestling and eventually defeated champion Ray Gunkel in 1957. A truly remarkable gladiator, Billy is immortalized in the International Wrestling Shrine, which is located aboard the famous ocean liner, the Queen Mary.

NVBA NOTES:

On April 26, Timothy (Buddy) Hayes, the popular president of Ring 4, NVBA of Boston, was honored with a party on the 40th anniversary of his winning of the New England featherweight title. The affair was held at the Florian Hall in Dorchester . . . Ring 72 of Northern California NVBA elected its officers for 1986. They are: Ray Lunny, president; Johnny Vidal, vice-president; Jack Campbell, secretary/treasurer; and Sandy Assonga, sargeant-at-arms . . . In April, Ring 72 hosted a dinner/dance at the Sheraton Inn, in Burlingame, California, honoring: Bud Christman, Ruben Hernandez, Bash Ali, Jack Padia, Larry Villarreal, Mitchell Julian, and Martin Quiroz . . . The National VBA's annual convention has been tentatively scheduled for October 17-20 at the American Host Farm in Lancaster, Pennsylvania . . .

JULY BIRTHDAY BOYS:

July 4th: Johnny Saxton, 56, former welterweight champion.
July 11th: Bobo Olson, 58, former middleweight champion.
July 16th: Joey Giardello, 56, former middleweight champion.
July 21st: Gene Fullmer, 55, former middleweight champion.
July 26th: Lou Salica, 73, former two-time bantamweight champion.

THE LAST ROUND:

Former light heavyweight champion Anton Christoforidis passed away at age 68 last November in Athens, Greece. Anton won the 175-pound title when he decisioned Melio Bettina over 15 rounds on January 13, 1941 in Cleveland, Ohio, The next year he lost the belt to Gus Lesnevich via another 15-round decision. Among the fighters he beat were: Ceferino Garcia, Lou Broullard, Jimmy Bivins, Tony Bruno, Johnny Colan, Jimmy Reeves and Moses Brown . . . Jackie Pilkington, 79, former lightweight contender during the 20s, recently passed away in Miami, Florida. He was the brother of Charley Pilkington, also a top-notch fighter . . . Eddie Pitcher, 60, boxing publicist, died of a heart attack on April 18th in New York City. Eddie was one of those nice guys who worked for practically everybody in New York boxing at one time or another. He was the nephew of Frankie Pitcher, former lightweight. Anton, Jackie, and Eddie . . . Rest In Peace. □

ASK THE STARS

Ring Magazine's indefatigable editors track down the biggest V.I.P.s in boxing to get answers to readers' provocative questions. If you have a query for a fighter, manager, promoter or anyone in the fight game, write:

ASK THE STARS
RING MAGAZINE
130 WEST 37th STREET
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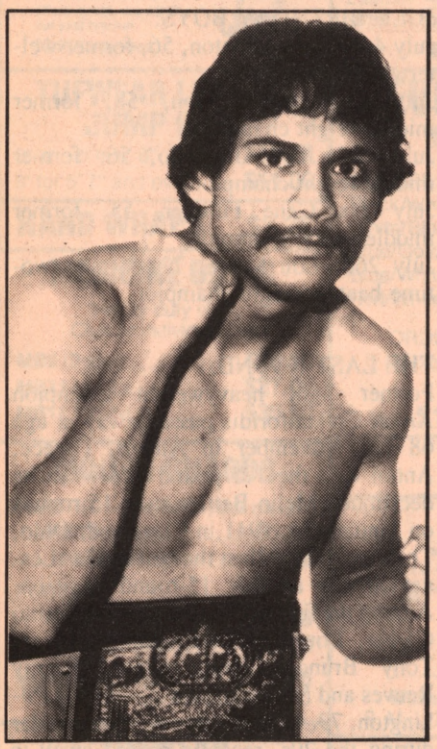
Questions should be of general interest and personal replies will not be given. ASK THE STARS is not a clearing-house for collectors. Requests for autographs, photographs, posters, T-shirts, hats etc. will be disposed of forthwith.

FOR EVERETT (BIGFOOT) MARTIN
Light heavyweight contender

Q: How did you get your nickname?
G.L.K., TYLER, TX

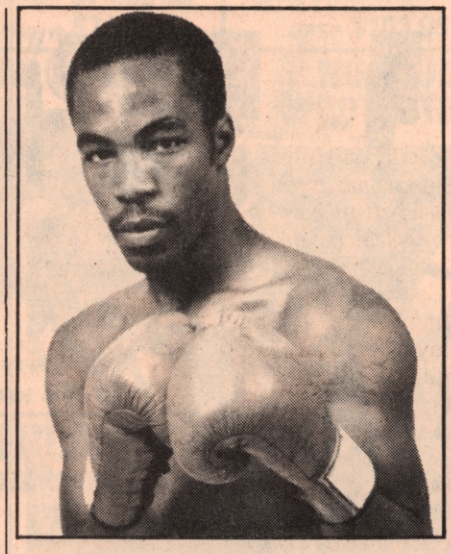
A: **It's kinda hard to explain, but basically, I got it when I was in gang fights. I never wore shoes when we fought, or even when I played other sports like football and basketball. Since I never wore shoes, they called me Bigfoot.**



FOR GABY CANIZALES
WBA bantamweight champion

Q: How do you feel about sports writers and TV commentators calling you a mini-Roberto Duran?
J.A., SAN ANTONIO, TX

A: **I consider it a great compliment. I've always felt Duran was one of the greatest champions in boxing history.**



FOR JIMMY PAUL
IBF lightweight champion

Q: Although you are the least known of the three lightweight champs, I think you're the best. Why don't you ever blow your own horn a little bit and try to attract some attention?
B.W., DETROIT, MI

A: **I'm not the type of person who goes around making a lot of noise. I just do the best job that I can do. (Hector) Camacho and (Livingstone) Bramble get all the publicity but in my heart, I truly believe I can beat them both.**

FOR JOHN DIEHL
Actor/Fighter

Q: You are doing so well acting in *Miami Vice*, why risk your neck boxing?
J.M., COCHISE, AZ

A: **I suppose it's the challenge. I started boxing just to get in shape, but I found myself becoming fascinated by the strategy and tactics in boxing. It's not just trying to knock someone's head off. It's more of a physical game of chess where you counter each move.**

FOR SHAWN O'SULLIVAN
Undefeated Canadian welterweight

Q: So far, what has been the biggest difference between the amateurs and the pros?
R.T., OTTAWA, ONT

A: **I have found professional boxing far more suited to my style. Amateur boxing is a sprint, while the pros are like a marathon. You have to learn pace and strategy.**

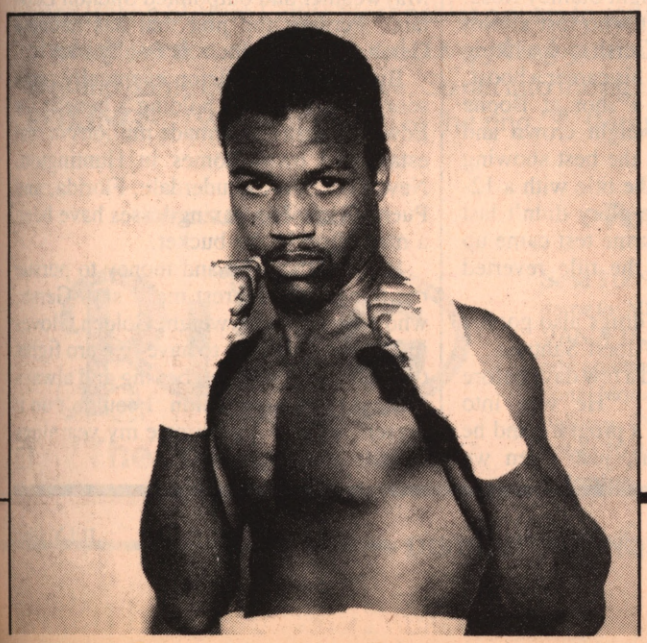
FOR ANGELO DUNDEE
Trainer of Champions

Q: What do you look for when you are sizing up a fighter?
R.O., ORLANDO, FL

A: **Balance is a must; so is great coordination of hands, feet, and body. But I guess the most important ingredient is desire: the desire to be a fighter, the desire to win, and the desire to be the best there is.**

KELVIN SEABROOKS BANTAMWEIGHT

ALTHOUGH KELVIN SEABROOKS HAS ONLY WON 28 OF HIS 41 professional fights, he's *The Ring*'s ninth rated bantamweight in the world and rapidly closing in on a title shot. The reason for Seabrooks' less-than-sensations stats is quite simple: In the past, in order to keep busy, Kelvin was forced to take fights against featherweights and even junior lights. But not anymore! . . . "From now on, Seabrooks will fight nothing but bantams," said co-manager Bill Reynolds Sr. "We'll fight anyone, anywhere . . . at 118-pounds." . . . The main reason for Seabrooks' sudden elevation in the rankings is his recent, second-round knockout over Freddie Jackson in Sydney, Australia. It was Kelvin's second successful trip "down under." He first travelled across the Pacific as Jerome Coffee's sparring partner when Coffee challenged national hero Jeff Fenech for the IBF bantamweight belt in late '85. Coffee lost a unanimous decision, but Kelvin stopped former Australian amateur champion Rodney Bowman in the third round on the undercard. Seabrooks made such a hit with the fans, promoter Bill Mordey offered him a chance to return for a bout with Jackson. Kelvin responded with a banner performance, blasting Freddie into oblivion . . . "This is the greatest night of my career," said Seabrooks following his victory. "All my life I've struggled to make a name for myself. Tonight, I hit Freddie so hard I almost knocked myself out." . . . The Jackson knockout was not the only world-class showing Seabrooks has turned in. August of '84 found Kelvin battling Gaby Canizales for the USBA bantamweight title in Canizales' hometown of Laredo, Texas. Gaby won a majority decision in a close fight that saw his local fans boo the decision. In fact, the *Laredo Morning Times* scored the bout 116-114 for Seabrooks! Now that Canizales is the WBA champ, Kelvin is more than anxious for a rematch . . . In another "moral victory," Kelvin had featherweight contender Calvin Grove on the floor before dropping a 10-round decision. On another of his many "road trips," Seabrooks halted local favorite Ray Minus in the third round of their bout in Nassau . . . When he's not fighting, Kelvin works as a dishwasher in a Charlotte, North Carolina steakhouse . . . "When I became champion, other people will be washing my dishes," says Kelvin with a grin. Providing he stays away from featherweights, it's a dream that could very well come true. □



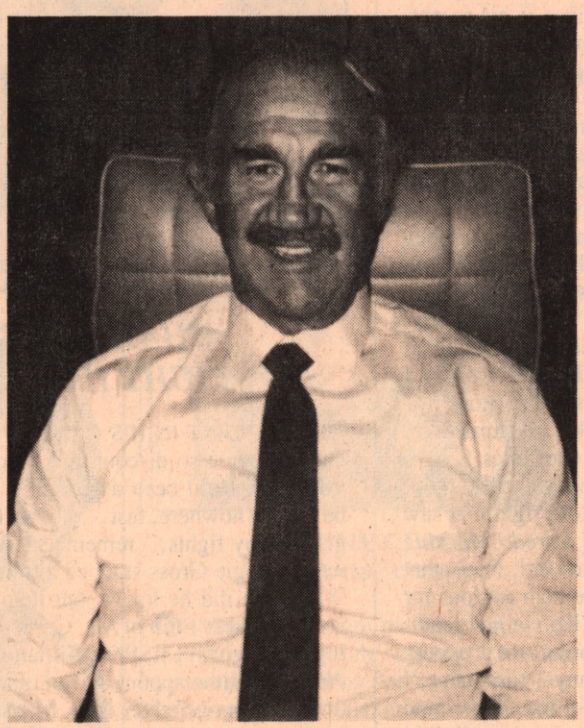
CHARLES WILLIAMS LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT

AT ONE POINT IN HIS CAREER, "PRINCE" CHARLES WILliams became so discouraged he quit boxing and got a job in a factory. He'd been a pro since June of '79, but seemed to be getting nowhere, fast . . . "My former manager just couldn't get me any fights," remembers Williams. Charles hit bottom when Reggie Gross stopped him inside one round in March of '83. Little did he know, but help was just around the corner in the unlikely form of Ms. Gerry Stapleton . . . "I was watching this fight on ESPN (Williams' eight-round decision over Anthony Witherspoon) and all of a sudden the announcer introduced a young fighter from Mansfield, Ohio, which is where I live," recalls Gerry. "I was a fan, but I didn't know of any fighters in Mansfield. I got in touch with Charles when I got home and we worked out a deal." . . . Following a second round kayo victory over Clarence Osby in September of '84, Ms. Stapleton booked Williams into a match with Marvin Johnson—the once and future light heavyweight champ . . . Williams lost a 10-round decision, but had Johnson out on his feet in the last round . . . "I had never been 10 rounds before. I was worried about running out of gas. When I finally opened up, it was a bit too late. But I'd love to fight Marvin again. I'll beat him easy next time." . . . Although it was another loss, Williams looked so impressive in defeat he attracted the attention of Russell Peltz, who promotes Johnson. By March of '85, Williams, Stapleton and Peltz were working together. So far, the team has been highly successful. Williams has won six straight, including a 10-round nod over Jeff Lampkin to reverse one of the four losses in an overall pro record of 18-4-1 (12 kayoes) . . . Although he still maintains a home in Ohio, Williams stays with trainer Marty Feldman in Philadelphia for six weeks of preparation before every fight. A young veteran at age 23, Williams has a new lease on life and hopes for a title shot by the end of '86 . . . or as it says in Williams' promotional brochure: "The Prince may be on his way to becoming a King—King of the light heavyweight division." □

IN THIS CORNER

by Nigel Collins

EDWARD GERSH (Manager)



THE MOST FAMOUS LINE OF EMMA Lazarus' poem engraved on the base of the Statue of Liberty reads: "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free." It could also very well be the recruiting call of fight manager Edward Gersh. In fact, Gersh's career as a manager has often seemed like one long reclamation project.

It started when Gersh hooked up with Howard Davis in 1982. Davis was the only American gold medalist from the 1976 Olympics who failed to win a professional world title, but Gersh figured he could help Howard change all that. For awhile, all went well. Then, according to Gersh, Davis signed a fight contract without consulting his manager.

"I never spoke to him (Davis) again," said Gersh. "But in the long run it was Howard who suffered. He was unbeaten when he was with me. If he had stayed, he'd have been a world champion. I already had a handshake agreement with Dave Wolf for a fight with Ray Mancini."

But Gersh isn't a quitter. He continued to sign fighters, and they continued to let him down . . . one way or another.

First, there was the unfortunate case of lightweight Adolfo Medel. A talented kid, Medel was fresh from an impressive showing against Robin Blake on national television when misfortune struck. Medel was playing sandlot soccer near his home in Florida when he was accidentally kicked in the head and severely injured. It was touch and go for awhile, but Adolfo survived. However, his fighting days were over. He now works the corners for the Gersh stable.

Then came cruiserweight Stanley Ross. He was a decent fighter who lost almost as many as he won, but Gersh took a liking to Ross and tried to give his career a boost. Gersh wrangled Ross a shot at Boone Pultz's USBA cruiserweight crown and Stanley responded with the best showing of his career, winning the title with a 12-round decision. But the glory didn't last long. Ross' post-fight urine test came up dirty (marijuana), and the title reverted back to Pultz.

According to Gersh, drugs also got the better of welterweight Albert Santana.

"Santana disappeared a few days before a fight," says Gersh. "He was into cocaine. I got him into a program and he kicked the habit. Then, just when we thought he had his act together, he did the same thing again."

Light heavyweight Robert Folley (son of Zora) is the latest member of the Gersh team to disappoint his boss.

"I had him signed to fight Charles Williams for Russell Peltz in Atlantic City," explains Ed. "A week before the fight, Robert claimed he hurt his hand. I called Peltz to tell him to get a substitute and he informed me that Folley had signed to fight in California for another manager. I was shocked, but I'm going to try to work out a deal so Robert can fight for who he wants to."

And the beat goes on. Dave Metzger, Gersh's publicist, says he could name 20 fighters who have taken advantage of Ed's kindness. But the dark cloud that has hovered over Gersh's managerial career seems to have finally revealed its silver lining: Fred Pendleton.

Another seemingly so-so fighter going nowhere, Pendleton was taken under Gersh's protective wing shortly after losing to the ill-fated Medel.

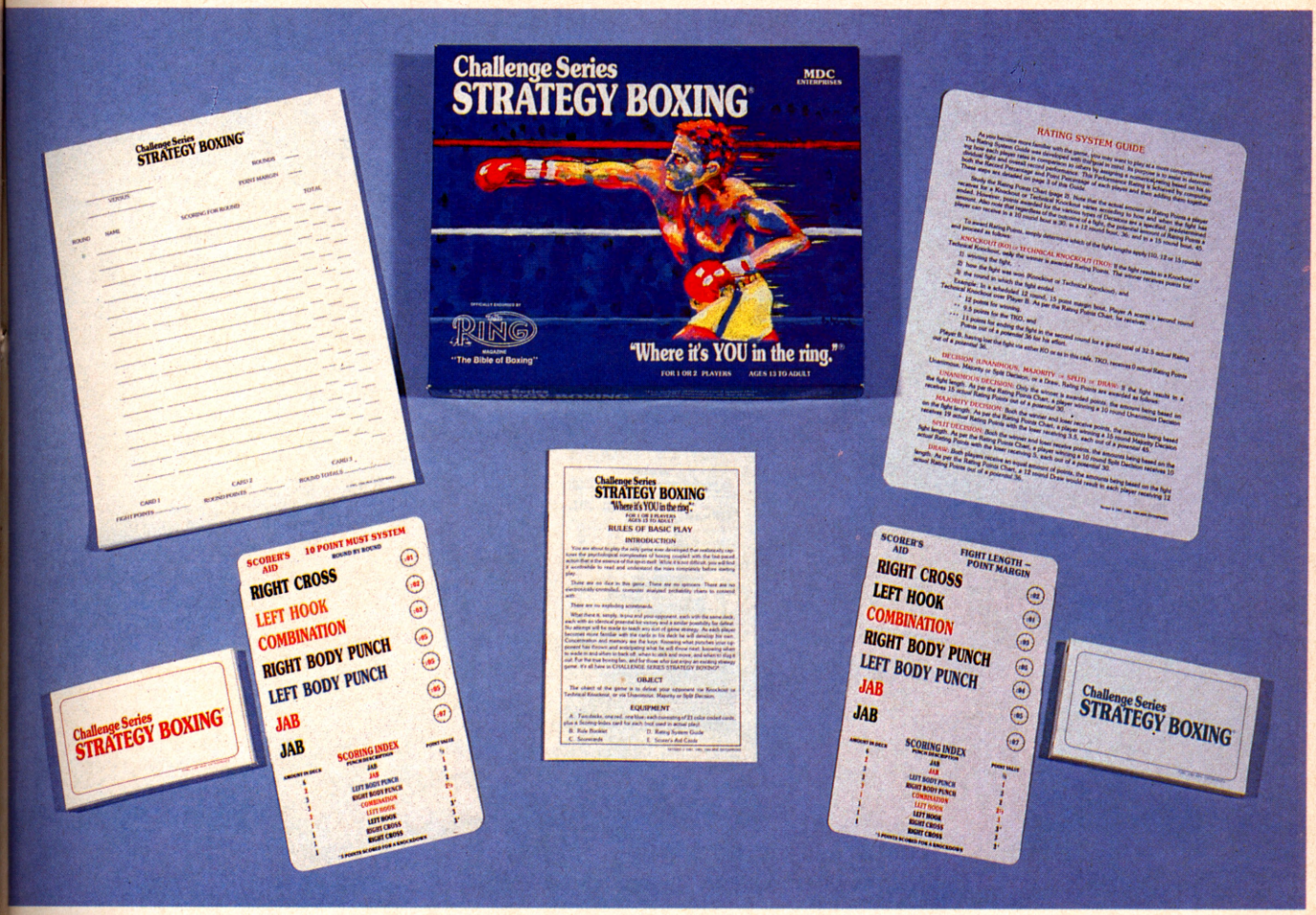
"To tell you the truth, I didn't think much of Freddie when he fought Medel," reveals Gersh. "Then I saw him again when he was sparring with Bill Costello. I said to myself, 'Jeez, that SOB *can* fight.' So, I signed him and shipped him down to Florida to train with Larry Kent. When I told Larry that Fred was coming, he said, 'I don't want that god damn bum.' Four days later, Larry calls me back and says, 'Eddie, you were right. Pendleton *can* fight like an SOB.' "

Pendleton has won four out of five since joining Gersh's stable. The only loss came against IBF lightweight champion Jimmy Paul, and that one was razor close. In his last two starts, Freddie has kayoed former WBA junior lightweight title holder Roger Mayweather and outpointed Shelton LeBlanc. Perhaps the jinx that has haunted Gersh and his fighters is finally over.

But even if Pendleton eventually turns sour, they won't be holding a benefit for Edward Gersh. He's made millions in real estate and owns homes in Huntington, New York, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and Puerto Rico. His boxing losses have been a mere drop in the bucket.

"I have the time and money to pursue the things that interest me," says Gersh, who won the heavyweight Golden Gloves in 1943 and went on to have five pro fights (4-1). "I always loved boxing and always wanted to be a champion. I couldn't do it myself, so now I sublimate my yearnings by managing fighters." □

GET INTO THE FIGHT GAME



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